



Nova Scotia
Environmental Network
Connecting for a Sustainable Future

Eco Connections Newsletter January 2017



Welcome!

Below you will find **events** (starting on page 2), various **jobs postings** (page 7), lots of **opportunities** to have your voice heard (page 11), and **news** (page 17). *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 know 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://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:

- Membership Coordinator
- Fundraiser

NSEN CAUCUSES

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! Check out NSEN's Climate Caucus webpage: <https://nsenvironmentalnetwork.com/about/caucuses/climate-change>

Water Caucus:

The next NSEN Water Caucus meeting will be in January or February 2017. Be in touch for more info: Amy Buckland-Nicks: amy@coastalaction.org and Kelly Schnare kellyb@sierraclub.ca. Check out www.ourlivingwaters.ca if you/your organisation may be interested in joining a network across Canada for people protecting and conserving freshwater bodies!

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

The next meeting will take place in the New Year. Be in touch with Karen for further details: karenmckendry@eastlink.ca

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

Upcoming Member Events & Events of Interest

January

Leadership Lab by Community Sector Council of Nova Scotia

In this special FREE for all Leadership Lab, we will look at what we can do to help support Executive Directors in their work. Do we need an ED school? Is it coaching and mentoring? What kinds of tools and resources could help ED's do their best work? Join us as we look at what is already out there to help, and what role the Community Sector Council could play in making a difference in this area.

Where: Lindsay Children's Room, Halifax Central Library, Spring Garden Road, Halifax

When: Tues. Jan. 17th, 2017, 9:30am-12pm

For more info and to register, [click here](#).

The January meeting of the **Council of Community Organizations (COCO)** will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at the Lakeside Community Centre, 1492 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Lakeside, Nova Scotia.

The Safety Minded ATV Association will be the host group and the Chair of the Meeting will be Mike Marriott.

Please join us to share news of the work of your organization or community projects and to hear about the work of others in the Highways 333 ,103 /3 loop. Everyone welcome. For further information please contact Beth McGee at bethjemcgee@gmail.com or Mike Marriott at mikemarriot@bellaliant.net.

Together - the Ecology Action Centre, Dalhousie University's Schulich School of Law, and the DSU Sustainability Office - are excited to present the following panel event next Thursday. Please share this invitation widely with your networks, and we hope to see you there!

"Canada's Coal Phase-Out and Why It's Possible Here, Too"

Date and Time:

Thursday, January 19th, 2017

4:00pm – 5:30pm

Location: Dalhousie University, Weldon Law Building

Room 105

6061 University Avenue, Halifax

What is the future of coal-fired electricity generation in Nova Scotia?

How do we move away from this fuel as quickly as we can, while considering the needs of all Nova Scotians in this transition?

In November 2016, the provincial and federal governments reached an agreement-in-principle regarding the phase-out of coal-fired electricity in Nova Scotia, which allows coal plants to continue operating into the 2030 decade. Details are under negotiation between the two governments, and Nova Scotians are discussing our best path forward.

This event will feature special guest Bruce Lourie, who was involved in the phase-out of coal-fired electricity in Ontario. Mr. Lourie will present his perspective, while panelists will be present to provide their reactions and be available for an open discussion period during the event.

Featured Guest:

Bruce Lourie – Author, President of the Ivey Foundation, Director with the Independent Electricity System Operator

Panelists:

Meinhard Doelle - Assistant Dean of Research, Schulich School of Law

Jason Hollett - Executive Director of Climate Change Team, Nova Scotia Department of Environment

Moderator:

Lisa Mitchell - Executive Director, East Coast Environmental Law

All About Off-Grid workshop

January 22 @ 2:30 pm-4:30 pm, Tantallon Public Library, Free, All Welcome.

Wondering what it's like to live without a connection to the electric grid and with no electric bill? Then this 2 hour presentation and discussion is for you.

Some of the topics that will be covered are:

- o Introduction to off-grid
- o Types of off-grid systems
- o Off-grid for new construction
- o Off-grid as a retrofit for existing houses
- o Components of off-grid systems
- o Energy use reduction techniques
- o Trade-off choices
- o Cost of some sample off-grid packages
- o Discussion of off-grid living
- o Ample time for questions

The primary presenter at this workshop will be Cam Farnell, who has been living happily off-grid for over five years and has no plans to go back.

Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be served. There is no cost to attend this workshop. Registration is not required and there will be plenty of room so please just come! This presentation has been quite popular.

Solar Nova Scotia offers practical courses on designing and building Solar Homes and Additions

The Passive Solar Home Design Course is intended for the general public and, for those in design and construction. The instructor is a 40 year experienced solar designer-builder, Don Roscoe.

1 SOLAR BASICS for electricity, for active thermal hot water and hot air, and for passive solar (3 1/2Hrs)

2 CLIMATE CONTROL for comfort and health, energy and the environment (5 1/2Hrs)

3 SITE DESIGNING, working with nature, creating microclimates and integrating the shelter (3Hrs)

4 SHELTER DESIGNING, bringing you, your needs and your site together (4 1/2Hrs)

5 MAKING IT HAPPEN, costing, controlling costs, contracting and doing it yourself (1 1/2Hrs)

This is offered as a six evening course in Halifax, Chester or Bridgewater; Spring, Winter & Fall. With demand, locally organized weekend versions may be offered in other locations. Contact: solardon.ns@gmail.com

WINTER ! ! -- at Bridgewater High School (541-4367 hnanlon@bridgewater.ca)

COURSES or (the location with the most attendees)

! ! -- at Chester, Forest Heights High (275-2712 jconrad@chester.ca).

Thursdays 6:45-9:45PM January 19 > February 23.

-- at Nova Scotia Institute of Technology, Leeds St., Halifax, Tuesdays 7-10: January 24 >

February 28 Information at SolarNS.ca Registration at (852-4758 / solardon.ns@gmail.com)

The fee: \$80 students, \$90 single, \$150 couples; with handouts. Optional textbooks(\$20/\$40)

On demand, a one-day PASSIVE SOLAR CONSTRUCTION COURSE will be offered mid-winter at Halifax & at other locally organized locations. This course is intended for those wishing to design and build a PASSIVE

SOLAR HOME with an air recirculated heat storage slab.

1 PASSIVE SOLAR BASICS

2 GROUND INSULATION instead of frost walls

3 HEAT STORAGE SLAB construction techniques and details

4 AIR RECIRCULATION and FILTRATION SYSTEM design and components

5 SYSTEM BALANCING and CONTROLS

Fee \$60 & \$50 students: with construction detail sheets & CD of the course visuals. Info. & Registration at solardon.ns@gmail.com

The Campaign to Protect Offshore Nova Scotia and the South Shore Chapter of the Council of Canadians present . . .

Do Oil and Water Mix? Strategies to Protect Our Offshore

WHEN: **Sunday, January 29, 1-4pm**

WHERE: **Mahone Bay Centre**, 45 School Street, Mahone Bay

WHY 1: **Engage with Invited Speakers:**

Lisa Mitchell, Executive Director, East Coast Environmental Law

John Davis, Clean Oceans Action Coalition, Shelburne County

Michael Bradfield, retired Economics Prof., Dalhousie University

Gretchen Fitzgerald, National Program Director, Sierra Club Cda

WHY 2: **Talk with Organizational Allies** such as:

- Blue Dream Project
- Clean Ocean Action Coalition
- Ecology Action Centre
- East Coast Environmental Law
- Sierra Club Canada-Blue Whale Project

WHY 3: **Participate in Strategy Sessions**

WHY 4: Free admission. Light refreshments provided.

For more information, contact southshore.cpons@gmail.com

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

<https://www.facebook.com/events/692537434256788/>

Hike NS Winter Guided Snowshoe Hike Series 2017

Hike Nova Scotia and 33 host organizations across the province have partnered up to offer the **2017 Winter Guided Snowshoe Hike Series** in January, February and March. There are over 50 hikes led by local folks and participants qualify to win "trail prizes." Most hikes are free and require pre-registration unless otherwise indicated in the schedule. Hike NS thanks its partners for organizing the hikes on the ground as well as NS Trails and the NS Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage for their support. Check out the list of events here: www.hikenovascotia.ca.

We've got the Where to Borrow, Rent or Buy Snowshoes in NS guide www.hikenovascotia.ca

Dalhousie College of Sustainability schedule is here:

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

Winter 2017 Term: ESS Lecture Series

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.

19 January. World's Challenge Challenge 2016: Unique Solutions Addressing Global Issues

Dalhousie's World's Challenge Challenge Semi-Final Presentations

Six Dalhousie semi-finalist student teams will present their innovative solutions in the [World's Challenge Challenge](#):

Alicia Roy, Danielle Skuy & Robyn Follett

Establish Female Business Owners in Prosthetic Limbs Production in Developing Countries

Keisha Jefferies, Nadine Ezzeddine & Yue Yuan
Create an Educational Program for Tanzania on the Benefits of Breast Feeding
Kyle Gardiner, Ryan Zigrossi & Conor Daily
Reduce Methane Gas Production by Changing Livestock Feed
Graeme Anson-Cartwright, Derek Zigrossi & Natasha Irich
Establish Renewable Energy Facilities in Developing Nations
Scott Young, Naveen Khanduri & Nicholas Popp
Develop Model for Phosphate Production for Use in Biofuel Production
Caitlin Grady, Jasveen Brar & Caroline Merner
Harness International Expertise to Support Climate-Vulnerable Communities
Co-hosted with DALVision—Academic Innovation

26 January. Civic Engagement: Why Activism, Politics and Community Matter More than Ever

Megan Leslie, VP Oceans, World Wildlife Fund Canada, Former MP for Halifax, NS.

Megan Leslie served for two terms as the federal Member of Parliament for Halifax and as the NDP environment critic. In 2015 she accepted the position as VP [Oceans](#) with World Wildlife Fund of Canada, contributing on their five-year plan. Megan has a long history of community engagement, social justice advocacy and tireless collaboration on health, environmental and poverty issues. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Social & Political Thought and History and a Certificate in Refugee and Migration Studies, both from York University and a law degree from Dalhousie.
Co-hosted with DSUSO (Dalhousie Student Union Sustainability Office)

2 February. CleanSea Documentary: The Marine Litter Problem and What We Can Do About It?

Heather Leslie, Environmental Scientist/Film Producer, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, NL.

[Project CleanSea](#) is a collaborative approach by multidisciplinary institutions across Europe to address the issue of marine litter. The *CleanSea* documentary follows these teams working to identify the environmental, social, and economic impacts of the garbage polluting our oceans. Using innovative technology, scientists sample and test the impact of micro-plastics, discover the cyclical nature of the marine litter problem, and make suggestions on what can be done to save our oceans before it is too late.

Heather Leslie is the Executive Producer of the CleanSea documentary and is an international leader in marine conservation science. She uses her background in ecotoxicology and chemistry in interdisciplinary settings to tackle complex environmental pollution problems such as marine litter, plastic waste and persistent organic pollutants. Heather leads the interdisciplinary marine litter research group at the IVM, coordinates the European Project CleanSea and conducts research on the ecology, policy, and management of coastal marine ecosystems.

[Watch the trailer](#)

9 February. Making it Real: Low Carbon Futures for Canada

Ralph Torrie, President, Torrie Smith Associates, Cobourg, ON.

Ralph Torrie is an expert in the field of energy and the environment with over 35 years of entrepreneurial, management and consulting experience. For his work on climate change Ralph has received the Canadian Environment Silver Award. Ralph is President of [Torrie Smith Associates](#), an environmental consulting firm specializing in the ecological, technical, and socio-economic aspects of resource management. The firm developed the framework and conventions now used around the world for local government climate change response strategies, produced the first low-carbon scenario analysis for Canada, and continues to help public and private sector clients identify and pursue the opportunities being generated by the current global energy transition.

16 February. Public Policy and Environmental Advocacy

Lois Corbett, Executive Director, Conservation Council of New Brunswick, Fredericton, NB.

Lois Corbett is the Executive Director of the [Conservation Council of New Brunswick](#)—a non-profit organization that creates awareness of environmental problems and advances practical solutions through research, education and interventions. An expert in public policy, Lois has previously worked with three Ontario Ministers of the Environment as a Senior Policy Advisor and has 30 years of experience in the environmental field, including as Executive Director of the Toronto Environmental Alliance and Halifax's own Ecology Action Centre.

2 March. Climate Journalism

Mike de Souza, Managing Editor, National Observer, Ottawa, ON.

Mike de Souza has covered politics as a radio, television and print journalist for over a decade, focusing on energy and environment policies in government and industry. He is currently the Ottawa-based Managing Editor of the [National Observer](#) and has previously worked for Reuters, Postmedia and The Montreal Gazette. Mike has a BA in Journalism from Concordia University. Some of Mike's important work explores high-level climate change denial, scientist suppression, and controversial oil, pipeline, and energy deals.

9 March. Solid Waste Management: Social, Environmental and Economic Sustainability

Andrew Wort, Principal, Fordingbridge Environmental Consultants, Dieppe, NB

Andrew Wort is the Principal of Fordingbridge Consultants, a consulting company specializing in strategic planning and management services in the solid waste management industry. His worldwide projects focus on recovery, collection, separation processes and disaster waste management projects. Andrew works tirelessly to bring facilities up to code on the best solid waste management practices, including those in New Brunswick and most recently, in Ecuador.

16 March. Film Screening and Skype Discussion: Minimalism: A Documentary About the Important Things (2016)

Matt D'Avella, Director/Producer, Catalyst, New York, NY

Minimalism: A Documentary About the Important Things follows duo Joshua Fields Millburn and Ryan Nicodemus, known to their millions of readers as "[The Minimalists](#)." The film examines the many flavours of minimalism by taking the audience inside the lives of minimalists from all walks of life—families, entrepreneurs, architects, artists, journalists, scientists, and even a former Wall Street broker—all of whom are striving to live a meaningful life with less.

Minimalism is a tool to rid yourself of life's excess in favor of focusing on what's important—so you can find happiness, fulfillment, and freedom.

Following the film, we'll talk with Director and Executive Producer **Matt D'Avella** who is an award-winning documentary filmmaker, commercial director and the head of [Catalyst Studio](#) in NYC. He is a graduate of Temple University.

[Watch the trailer here.](#)

23 March. Hosting Conversations that Matter: Leadership for Collaboration

Toke Moeller, Co-Founder and CEO, Interchange, Copenhagen, Denmark

Toke Moeller has been a pioneer in the fields of sustainable entrepreneurship, participatory leadership, educational renewal and social responsibility since the early 1970s. He is the co-founder and CEO of [InterChange](#) in Denmark—a training and consulting company with a focus on organizing, designing, hosting and facilitating conferences that offer collaborative learning and deep dialogues.

His primary focus is on personal and societal renewal and convening conversations in order to collectively and strategically find wiser and sustainable solutions to problems that matter at this time. He is co-creator of the Art of Hosting participatory leadership approach that uses personal practice and collaborative innovation to address complex and systemic issues and a co-founder of The Flow Game.

30 March. Living Lightly on the Earth: Building an Ark for Prince Edward Island

Steven Mannell, Architect, Director of the Dalhousie College of Sustainability, Halifax, NS

Steven Mannell has been the director of Dalhousie's College of Sustainability since its launch in 2009 and is an accomplished architect and a passionate environmentalist. Steve has a Bachelor in Environmental Studies and a Bachelor of Architecture, both from the University of Waterloo and co-teaches the first year Introduction to Sustainability (SUST 1000) and Honours Thesis (SUST 4800) courses each year.

The Ark, in Spry Point PEI, was a UN Habitat's Canadian Urban Demonstration Project, built to explore self-sufficient housing in the wake of the 1970's energy crisis. Heated by the sun and powered by the wind, this short-lived example of ecological architecture and social living sparked discussions about living in harmony with the environment. This year, to celebrate the Ark's 40th anniversary, Steve curated the exhibit at the [Confederation Centre Art Gallery](#) in Charlottetown PEI exploring the design and impact of the Ark. (On display until April 2017).

Read about the project in [Canadian Architect](#)

February and onward...

Your Compassionate Coastline: Sea-Level Rise in St. Margaret's Bay & What We Can Do!

February 12, 2:15pm – 4:45pm, Tantallon Public Library, All Welcome, No cost.

We all need to know more about what to expect in our area for sea-level rise. It is happening. There is much more to come. Effects are serious. But we can do much positive in response. All of us can help. So join us!

Our speakers will lead us in exploring the most critical issues with a focus specifically on St. Margaret's Bay. You will be offered the latest information, including sources for ongoing learning. We will engage in documenting your concerns and

questions with a special interest in your local knowledge of specific impacts and vulnerabilities, including what you say needs to be done here. This is for everybody whether you live here, or on the coast, or not. Organizations are particularly urged to send representatives.

“Sea-level rise is impacting our coastal communities more and more every year and it’s not expected to let up in the future. Communities need knowledge, they need tools, but most importantly they need to feel empowered to do something about it.” Samantha Page, EAC’s Coastal Adaptation Coordinator.

Samantha will present evidence and tools for us just recently developed and fully up-dated. The Ecology Action Centre has teamed up with the Department of Fisheries & Oceans to create an informative website and workshop for coastal residents, fishermen, and municipalities about rising seas that are specific to our region and communities.

This project is designed to:

- Help communities learn about sea-level rise and how it affects them,
- Provide access to tools that have been developed locally with the latest climate change information available,
- Show the need for incorporating sea-level rise into future plans.

The website will be launched in February and the EAC will be hosting a series of workshops. So the approach and information will be as fresh as the salt spray at Peggy’s Cove!

Kelly Schnare will be presenting an interactive workshop with Sierra Club of Canada Atlantic's Re-imagining Atlantic Harbours in 2050, (RAH2050.org) which aims to inspire and identify with our waters for the next generation. Story sharing using the ‘Swim Drink Fish’ program called [#mywatermark](https://www.facebook.com/mywatermark) will engage participants to document their coastal experiences.

“Personally inquiring and reflecting on Saint Margaret’s Bay is essential to this workshop. Re-imagining SMB in 2050 asks: how do you talk about the Bay, how do you interact with it? Collectively a shared vision for the next generation uses a blue lens to look at our community to uncover a cultural, watershed, and species dialogue to allow us to further understand the centre of our community.” Kelly Schnare, Program Coordinator with Sierra Club Atlantic.

Can’t make it to the workshop? We would still love your feedback on the website content. Sign up (encouraged but not required) by emailing coastal@ecologyaction.ca or by calling [902.442.5046](tel:902.442.5046). Snacks and drinks will be provided.

Hosts: Transition Bay St Margarets and Ecology Action Centre. More information at: transitionbay.ca/events and at: ecologyaction.ca/issue-area/coastal-and-water-projects .

Transition Bay St Margarets works on the need for adaptable and resilient local communities as part of the [International Transition Movement \(transitionnetwork.org\)](http://transitionnetwork.org), focused on building resiliency back into local areas in a project-driven approach. We have launched a number of successful projects in the Bay and also continue to host regional workshops on related topics.

<https://www.facebook.com/Act-for-our-Coast-Now-113275042072820/>

<https://www.facebook.com/rah2050>

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, March 5, 2017 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. for the **Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust Annual General Meeting** at the Estabrooks Community Hall, Lewis Lake. Everyone is welcome.

Job Postings:

Senior Coordinator (Food Team) job posting due Thursday Jan 19.

<https://ecologyaction.ca/jobs>

This position is one of two project co-leads of a highly collaborative 8 person team. Co-leads are responsible for management of the current project, long term planning of the work, fundraising and partnership building. Additionally, this position is the lead on the Policy Research and Civic Engagement work of the project, and responsible for fulfilling certain policy related deliverables. These deliverables include but are not limited to: development and implementation of a policy mentorship series; conducting policy research; and collaborating with partners to effect policy change related to community food security.

New Growers Wanted <http://FoodWork.ca/930573>

Type: self employment & learning opportunity

Organization: Bethany New Growers Program

Location: Antigonish, Nova Scotia

Organic Farm Paid Interns (4 positions) <http://FoodWork.ca/953763>

Type: full-time weekly base salary plus room and board, more (see below)

Farm: Abundant Acres <http://abundant-acres.com>

Location: Centre Burlington, Hants County, Nova Scotia

Guided and Self-Guided Tour Supervisor and Community Impact Coordinator <http://GoodWork.ca/953573>

Organization: I Heart Bikes Inc.

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Canvasser, Membership Team <http://FoodWork.ca/932573>

Organization: Ecology Action Centre

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

\$15-\$17.50 per hour, 18-30 hours a week

Mobile Food Market Assistant (18 week contract position) <http://FoodWork.ca/935373>

Organization: Partners for Care - Mobile Food Market

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Start: Mid February 2017

10 - 20 hours per week @ \$15.00/hour contingent upon funding

Positions: Organic Farming Internship

Type: paid full-time internship; housing optional, more (see below)

Organization: Four Seasons Farm

Location: Maitland, near Truro, Nova Scotia

Four Seasons Farm is a place where many opportunities await both the aspiring farmer and the curious person looking to understand food. While the farm is a commercial business, the resources to learn about farming are many; there is a library of periodicals and books, a small plot of land to play with, experienced farmers to answer questions, and a successful, well established farm to experience. Owners Sina and Owen strive to accommodate and challenge interns so that when they finish the season feel fulfilled and ready to continue their journeys. Those who bring questions, motivation and a sense of humor find the best fit here. Also, previous experience is valued but passion and hard work trump all else. A commitment to a whole season is expected, benefiting the farm and the intern most. Interns who have these qualities enable the farm to move forward in producing healthy organic food, sharing ideas of permaculture and sustainable agriculture, and enriching the farm and the community that surrounds it (Maitland!).

Located in rural Nova Scotia, 25 min west of Truro, and 1 hour north of Halifax, Four Seasons is a unique and well-established medium sized farming operation beginning its 25th year as an organic farm. Family owned and operated since 1992, the farm went through a transition of ownership from one generation to the next in 2012. Mixed greens play an important role at the farm, while the rest of the focus is put toward shoot mix, herbs and market vegetables, particularly garlic, cherry and heirloom tomatoes, carrots and beets.

There are ten greenhouses that are used for season extension, which allow growing to start in February and finish harvesting in December. A processing building houses a walk-in cooler and allows us to process more effectively and out of the elements. The farm currently cultivates 6 acres on owned and leased land. Slowly, the farm is incorporating fruit trees and chickens for eggs into the system to create a more sustainable, permaculturally inspired approach to organic farming. The farm is a place to learn about food in its many aspects, especially growing it but also cooking and eating it. Experience farming as both as a lifestyle and a livelihood alongside seasoned farmers who want to teach what they know and learn what they don't. We offer each intern a small plot of land where they can experiment with crops and have their own garden to grow what they want. Inside, everyone is encouraged to read from the constantly expanding comprehensive farm library. 2nd year interns who are invited back can have a new arrangement with access to land and tools to start their own initiative and a potential employment on the farm.

The farm family includes friends Sina and Owen as owners, Moira (Owen's wife), and their daughter. The former owners Nancy and David Roberts play a part, two full time people, local part-time helpers, two interns, friends & volunteers and a few others in between. Oh yeah, and Hali our dog and Rocky & Red the cats.

Come and join our fun farm family!

INTERNSHIPS

Interns are invited to join us from March until November

Qualifications:

- A strong interest in local, sustainable food
- Previous work experience/education in agriculture is preferred
- Positive and inquisitive
- Energetic, hard-working and highly motivated
- Desire to work and live in a cooperative setting

Work/Learn Description

- Over the course of the season interns will develop the skills to grow from "seed to plate." Some of the tasks and themes include: seeding and transplanting; soil health and fertility; cover cropping; irrigation; trellising and pruning; weed, pest and disease management; intercropping; succession planting; managing and improving high tunnels; post-harvest handling; direct farm marketing; delivering to clients and selling at a farmers' market; cooking and preserving food; poultry care; implementing some permacultural practices; compost making; breaking and working fallow ground; fixing and maintaining small machinery; and general farm maintenance
- Some building projects are also planned for this year include: finishing the processing building, building a new glorified mudroom, painting the house, hooking up a well to solar power, building a small cabin and dozens of other projects in mind. And there is always upgrading & maintaining the greenhouses.
- Learning and working take place in both individual and group settings; there is individual instruction, group demonstrations, and working with one another to pass along skills
- Detailed instructions are given to develop the skills necessary to perform tasks on the farm
- There is an extensive farm library for everyone to use
- Special workdays and celebrations with friends and community several times a year for a change of pace

Responsibilities:

- The regular work schedule is full days of work on weekdays running from 7am – 5pm, with a 30 minute morning break/aka second breakfast, and a 1 ¼ hour lunch break
- Interns are in charge of watering the farm crops on a rotating basis, this includes the weekends and is usually once a month or less
- Helping with deliveries
- Selling our produce at the farmers market in Halifax on Saturdays, usually once a month or less

Housing:

- Housing can be provided in the beautiful family farm house for a fee. Interns will have their own rooms.
- Access to Canada-wide long-distance phone calls and wireless internet
- Laundry facilities available
- Detergent, soap, sunscreen and some over the counter medication provided
- Regular opportunities to cook almost anything with fresh and local ingredients
- Interns are also expected to take part in managing an orderly household, clean the house weekly, do household chores and take turns cooking for everyone

Farm conduct:

- There is a reasonable list of household guidelines which outline rules of respect and procedure followed in the house and on the farm
- Safety is first and foremost; taking care of potential dangers and being mindful as we work.
- No drugs allowed, responsible drinking practiced

Compensation: \$11/ hr

Additional Benefits:

- A space in our farm garden of your own to grow what you want
- An opportunity to explore this beautiful region of Nova Scotia on the Bay of Fundy (several bikes available, mud sliding, swimming, sports, hiking and foraging are all things that are commonly done here)
- The chance to meet others locally and from around the world, involved in the farm and food revival movement
- Campfires, playing music and socializing are common activities enjoyed on the farm (sing it!)

To Apply

The 2017 season will run from March until November.

There is no deadline to apply.

- Only full season interns get accepted
- preference will be given to applicants over 20, as well as single applicants
- International applicants are encouraged to apply to the internship. However, the applicant will be expected to research information regarding visa and travel restrictions. Please keep in mind that we are not English teachers and we expect applicants to have a basic knowledge to communicate in English
- Please email us a request for a questionnaire. It can be send together with your resume and 2-3 references to: info@fourseasonsfarm.ca . Follow up communication and an interview will be done by phone or Skype with Nancy Roberts.
- Please note: the initial two weeks of an intern's stay is a probationary period where both the farm management and intern will assess whether they are happy with each other

Check us out at <http://www.fourseasonsfarm.ca>

A warm welcome to those who enjoy hard work, tasty food, good conversation, music, and living with a diverse group of

people. We sincerely look forward to working hard and having a great time together!

From Maitland

Owen & Sina

Position: Skilled Farm Worker

Type: full-time paid positions, optional housing (see below)

Organic farm: Four Seasons Farm

Location: Maitland, near Truro, Nova Scotia

Four Seasons Farm is looking for Skilled Farm Workers

Requirements:

- At least 2 years of vegetable farming experience (one year on an organic farm)
- Driver's license
- First aid [preferred]

The Ideal Person Is:

Responsible, outgoing, good at communicating, hardworking, autonomous, precise, observant, organized

Jobs description:

The farm worker will be working in our fields and greenhouses doing day to day farm work. Work will happen independently and in a team. Instructions will be given on a daily basis with potential for the development of an independent work schedule within the farm schedule.

Tasks will include but are not restricted to:

- Seeding field crops [specifically salad greens]
- Bed preparation
- Harvesting
- Transplanting different vegetables and herbs
- Working with irrigation
- Specific watering tasks
- Potential Market/Retail Helper and/or delivery driver

Compensation:

Wage: \$14/hr

Housing:

Accommodation can be provided in the farm house for a monthly rent which could also include meals.

Separate housing would be preferred.

Time commitment:

March 1st, 2017 – November 30th, 2017

Monday – Friday, occasional weekends

Potential for part-time work as well

Saturdays for markets as needed

Opportunities:

- Land & greenhouse space is available to grow your own crops with the possibility to sell it to the farm (conditions apply)
- Long term employment
- Access to farm vegetables

For more on the farm visit our website at fourseasonsfarm.ca

To apply please email us and include your resume and references: sina.owen@fourseasonsfarm.ca

ORGANIC FARMING OPPORTUNITY

<http://FoodWork.ca/953763>

Position: Organic Farm Paid Interns (4 positions)

Type: full-time weekly base salary plus room and board, more (see below)

Farm: Abundant Acres <http://abundant-acres.com>

Location: Centre Burlington, Hants County, Nova Scotia

Are you committed to a career in agriculture? Are you looking for a chance to build farming skills while saving up some money? If so, we would like to talk with you.

About the farm: We grow organic vegetables for a 175 family CSA, a busy farmer's market stall and several wholesale accounts including Dalhousie University. Our farm is on 90 acres of fields, forest, and salt marsh on the banks of a tidal river near the Bay of Fundy. We are constantly experimenting with new crops and production systems. In 2017, we plan to grow six acres of vegetables. We also keep free range laying hens for eggs and graze a small herd of cattle

Our farm is too complex to manage by ourselves, so we ask each employee to manage one of our four production systems. These are 1. seedling and production greenhouses, 2. short season crops on permanent beds, 3. mechanically cultivated row crops, and 4. plasticulture crops. To see how the farm crew worked last year, please see our blog post about it, or the article written by Dakota Varen on the Grow A Farmer blog.

The team so far:

- Jen Greenberg is in charge of animals, fruit, finances and customer relations.
- David Greenberg leads vegetable production. He spends a lot of time on maintenance of equipment and infrastructure, and coming up with new ideas.
- Marshall Zuern is returning for his fourth season with us. He is our field production manager, responsible for managing harvests, wholesale orders and training a new person to do the job he did so well last year: Growing 1.5 acres of high value, short season crops on permanent raised beds.

The position is from mid-April until mid-November. We offer a base salary of \$300 per week, plus room and board. We also offer workman's comp, and a paid one week vacation mid summer. At the end of the season, you will be eligible for EI. Higher pay is possible for applicants with extensive farming experience. Year round employment with room and board is a possibility.

Apply by email to: Jen Greenberg, jenredfox@gmail.com. Please send a letter of intent, resume, and three references. Position will be posted until hiring is complete. If this interests you, don't delay getting in touch! Questions? Call David Greenberg [902-757-1640](tel:902-757-1640) or email davidgreenberg71@gmail.com

Environmental Opportunities:

Sackville Rivers Association Small Change Fund Project is now live.

Here is the link that you can share with people in your network to help raise funds for the SRA: <https://smallchangefund.org/project/b9CWW8pcxRQSdj945>.

\$2,000 is our GOAL this year and we hope you can help us reach that goal!!.

Use of Funds:

Equipment and Aquarium Unit Replacements and Repairs - \$1,000

New equipment purchase (for in-classroom equipment - aquariums, chiller units) - \$1,000

The Sackville Rivers Association (SRA), is a not for profit, registered charitable, volunteer based community group in existence since 1988 with approximately 200 members, concerned with the health of the Sackville River Watershed. The SRA's mandate is to:

- Protect and where necessary restore the Sackville River Watershed,
- Provide educational programs to encourage stewardship and awareness,
- Establish a Conservation Corridor along the length of the Sackville River, and
- Provide advice and support to other watershed groups

In the past, the SRA has undertaken many projects, ranging from salmon habitat restoration to environmental education. Our efforts are concentrated on protecting and restoring salmon habitat, reconnecting fragmented salmon habitat, rebuilding salmon habitats through restocking, and educating the public through our two educational in-classroom programs River Rangers and Fish Friends. We are also working on developing a watershed management plan for the Sackville River Watershed, based on our existing Sackville River Ecosystem Plan (SREP).

If you'd like to find out more, please visit our website at <http://sackvillerrivers.ns.ca/>.

VOLUNTEER POSITION

FOUND Fridays Harvest Coordinator <http://FoodWork.ca/982373>

Organization: FOUND Forgotten Food

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Volunteer Group Leader for Citizens' Climate Lobby Halifax

Looking for a volunteer leader to take over as soon as possible as group leader for the Nova Scotia chapter of a well-organized and effective international organization, Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) Canada, a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots advocacy organization with a twin focus: to create the political will for a livable planet and to empower people to claim their political and personal power. CCL's approach to creating political will for carbon pricing is based on a proven model developed by the poverty-reduction and citizen empowerment organization RESULTS. Unique in the climate arena, CCL's roots can also be traced to the principles of nonviolence and compassion that guided the social revolutions led by Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. If you're looking to help achieve reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and to gain transferable interpersonal, communication, computer and organizational skills, this is an ideal group with whom to

work. Present group leader started the Nova Scotia chapter in 2011 and, due to personal reasons, needs to find a replacement as soon as possible to carry on this important work. No expertise in climate science is necessary. Just a desire as a citizen to see appropriate action being applied politically in Nova Scotia in this area of dire concern. Contact [902-429-1571](tel:902-429-1571) for further information.

The David Suzuki Foundation is offering three \$50,000 research fellowships to support young scholars in Canada. Among the student fellowships, is one to support Indigenous science and knowledge. We're specifically looking for a young Indigenous Scholar to lead a project on Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Climate Change. Details are available on the David Suzuki Fellowships website: <http://ow.ly/7gUy305L5Na>

Creative Industries Fund: Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage is now accepting applications for a new \$2 million Creative Industries Fund. This fund has been designed, in consultation with stakeholders, to invest in the growth of the creative industries. Businesses, not-for-profits, social enterprises and sector associations operating in the creative sectors are eligible for funding. For more information click [HERE](#).

New 150 Forward Fund now open (Nova Scotia): As part of Canada's 150th celebration, Nova Scotia's 150 Forward Fund is now open for communities and groups to apply for funding for your community project or event. For more information click [HERE](#). Next round opened Dec.1, 2016.

Hi Solar Friends,

Can you help to make Nova Scotia a place that relies 100% on renewable energy?

Are you an owner of a solar energy system? Do you want to inspire others by your example? We are looking for volunteers who would be interested in having their system and story featured on our website as a case study.

We need case studies for

Passive Solar

Solar Thermal

Hot air

Hot water

Solar Electricity (PV)

Concentrated

Ideally, case study volunteers would have owned their solar energy systems for a minimum of two years and are willing to share information about their systems such as the details of its design, energy production and costs. We will do the rest.

Why do we want to do this?

- Clearly show Nova Scotians the economic and environmental benefits of adopting solar energy.
- Make our website the recognized clearing house for solar energy information.

If you are interested please contact me before December 20, 2016:

Ian Guppy

Solar NS Communications Committee

guppy@ns.sympatico.ca

Phone: [902-425-5121](tel:902-425-5121)

We, youth members of the iMatter Now campaign, have created a Youth Climate Report Card grading Halifax on its climate action. We are asking for your **endorsement** of this Report Card and our campaign in general. We would love to have other youth passionate about the natural world supporting our campaign. The Report Card is a simple, science-based tool that measures to what extent a city or community is currently attempting to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to the levels required to end the climate crisis. The Report Card assessment is based on the largest contributors to greenhouse gas emissions in Canada, focusing on the areas that a local governing body can reasonably impact. We contacted the municipal government's Climate Change Specialist, Alex Macdonald, and Waste Resource Analyst, Shannon Betts. They helped us gather the information necessary to complete the Report Card.

Report Card grades are based on real data, the city's concrete actions, and the presence (or absence) of climate programs with appropriate goals. The science used to determine these appropriate goals comes from a team of some of the world's leading climate scientists, led by Dr. Jim Hansen -- formerly of NASA. An A-F grading system evaluates a city's action (or inaction) in regards to their climate action. There are five sections of the report card which are combined into an overall grade:

Zero Emissions Climate Action Plan: Measures when the city's Climate Action Plan gets to net zero human emissions (by 2040 is an A, 2050 a C).

Renewable Energy: Measures when the percent of renewables used to generate a city's electricity is more than the national average, and the percentage is rising.

Waste: Measures when the amount of waste per person is decreasing and the percent of that waste that is recycled or composted is increasing.

Carbon Removal: Measures when there is some kind of a program that will result in more carbon being removed from the atmosphere.

Youth Involvement: A bonus area that rewards a half grade for having youth involved in advising on or setting climate change related policies and plans.

The Report Card was created by the international youth climate organization, iMatter, in consultation with some of the people and organizations most knowledgeable as regards community climate change initiative.

Attached is the full detailed report card for Halifax that will be presented by members of the iMatter Now Halifax campaign to the Environment and Sustainability Committee of the City Council on **February 2nd, 2017**. Halifax's grade is a C+

We would like to ask that your organization endorse this report card. *What exactly does "endorsement" entail?*

Partnering with us to **increase visibility and media attention** leading up to the presentation to the Environment and Sustainability Committee

Supporting the campaign by **attending the presentation** and filling the room to physically show support

And if you are interested, working with us to **formulate a climate resolution** that the HRM should sign onto so as to ensure a sustainable future for our city.

The following is the link to the webpage for the iMatter Now Halifax campaign:

<http://www.imatteryouth.org/halifax-ns/>

And this is the link to the endorsement form if your organization chooses to endorse this campaign. If interested, please fill out the form and also email or call us back!

<https://form.jotform.com/61678707351967&campaignid=Halifax&city=Halifax&state=;country=Canada&province=NS&>

Thank you very much!

Sincerely,

Cameron Yetman and Lily Barraclough

iMatter Now Halifax

cameron_yetman@hotmail.com

[+1 \(902\) 219-6667](tel:+19022196667) or [+1 \(416\) 898-8664](tel:+14168988664)

This is to advise that on December 16, 2016, Halifax Water will register the Lake Major Dam Replacement Project for environmental assessment, in accordance with Part IV of the Environment Act.

The purpose of the proposed undertaking is to replace the existing Lake Major Dam with a new concrete structure, located approximately 35 m upstream from the existing structure, in the community of Lake Major, Halifax Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia. The new dam will maintain a water level of 19.5 m, which is approximately 0.5 m above the existing normal lake level. Pending approval to proceed, construction is anticipated to commence during the spring of 2017 with operations to begin in late 2017.

On December 16, 2016, all project information including the Registration Document will be available on Nova Scotia Environment website at <http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/ea/>.

Please note that comments must be provided no later than **January 25, 2017** to be considered in this environmental assessment. **Comments are requested to be provided via e-mail if possible.**

On or before February 14, 2017, the Minister of Environment will decide if the project can be granted conditional environmental assessment approval. All submissions received, including personal information, will be made available for public review upon request.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Helen Yeh

Environmental Assessment Officer

Nova Scotia Environment

1903 Barrington Street, Suite 2085

PO Box 442

B3J 2P8

Phone: [\(902\) 424-1514](tel:(902)424-1514)

Fax: [\(902\) 424-6925](tel:(902)424-6925)

e-mail: Helen.Yeh@novascotia.ca

Nominations for EECOM National Awards of Excellence in Environmental Education

With the national EECOM conference in Wolfville in May, it would be great to have some of the great work in Atlantic Canada being recognized for the awards of excellence, and it would make it likely the folks could be here to receive the award, which is way nicer. so please consider making nominations for some of the excellent work here. The deadline is February 5 and the link is: <http://eecom.org/awards>

Naturalists wanted. The Wild Wednesdays beach and woodlands guided walks program at Thomas Raddall Natural Environment Park seeks naturalists in the Shelburne/Queens area willing to lead two-hour walks on Wednesday afternoons this coming July and August. Wild Wednesdays, entering its second year, is a project of the Harrison Lewis Coastal Discovery Centre. If you have an area of special interest and expertise related to what plants and animals are found by the seashore and adjoining woods and barrens, and would be willing to give up a couple of hours on one or more Wednesday afternoon, please contact us for details. Harrison Lewis Centre, Sandy Bay, East Port L'Hebert. Phone [902-646-1554](tel:902-646-1554), or email hlc@eastlink.ca

Care to **support** the Harrison Lewis Centre's Wild Wednesday program, helping provide teaching materials, transportation for seniors, or in other ways? We are a **registered charity** and can provide CRA-accredited receipts for donations, monetary or otherwise, with a value of \$10 or more.

Got some beef to air?

Got some news to share?

Got some questions? Got some ideas? Got some plans?

This Friday evening, every Friday evening, is the Solar Nova Scotia Sup'n'Share!

We're there at 5:00 sharp, have supper and catch up.

When: Every Friday evening, 5:00pm

Where: Lion's Head Tavern, 3081 Robie St. Ask the waiter to point out our table.

Seeya there!

My name is Nicole LeBrun and I am current enrolled in the **Environmental Engineering program at the NSCC Waterfront campus**. As a class we are asked to do an applied research project that will take place over the course of the year. As part of the project we are encouraged to reach out to local community organisations or larger organisation in the hope that they will be currently working on a project that we students can help with and also use as our applied research project. I was wondering if you, or anyone at the local level was working on a project regarding environmental conservation, restoration, engineering or any other environmental work.

Thank you very much for your time.

Nicole LeBrun

nicolelebrun4@hotmail.com

ACOA has issued a **Call to Action** inviting Atlantic Canadian companies, communities and non-profit organizations to develop proposals for projects that promote clean growth through clean technology. The Agency has **earmarked \$20 million** for clean technology projects in 2016-17. Applications should be submitted on or before **March 31, 2017**.

Please share with clients who may be interested. I will also follow-up with the ACOA Area Account Manager to see if she can pop in to give an overview of the program to Dartmouth staff as part of our Speaker/Info Series.

Objectives of ACOA's Clean Technology Initiative

- To encourage Atlantic Canadian businesses, communities and non-profit organizations to access ACOA programs to develop clean technology products, services or processes;
- To help companies adapt and adopt clean technology that make their work processes more efficient and less costly;
- To help **communities and non-profit organizations become more eco-friendly through the adoption or adaptation of clean technologies in community facilities;**
- To help **non-profit organizations such as institutions of higher learning conduct research and development on clean technology products, services and processes;**
- To promote clean growth as a way to grow the economy of Atlantic Canada; and
- To diversify the region's economy, open up new markets and generate good jobs for Atlantic Canadians.

What types of projects will ACOA consider assisting?

ACOA will consider assisting various types of projects, including those proposed by:

- businesses in the clean technology sector that wish to start up or expand through the development or upgrade of newer, cleaner technologies; organizations from other sectors looking to develop, adapt or adopt products, services or processes that promote clean growth; **organizations that wish to implement more clean processes; and communities and non-profit organizations looking to become more eco-friendly through the adoption or adaptation of clean technologies in their facilities.**

<http://www.acoa-apeca.gc.ca/eng/ImLookingFor/ProgramInformation/Pages/Clean-Technology-Initiative.aspx>

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

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. 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=

4. 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.

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.

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)

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/>

Environment and Climate Change Canada is inviting you to comment on the proposed *Recovery Strategy for the Bicknell's Thrush (Catharus bicknelli)* in Canada.

The Bicknell's Thrush (*Catharus bicknelli*) was listed as a threatened species in Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act (SARA) in 2012. The Bicknell's Thrush is a rare, range-restricted forest bird. During the breeding season, the species inhabits inland forests at elevations ranging from 380 to 1,100 m, as well as coastal lowland forests in Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and the northeastern United States. It winters in the Greater Antilles, with the bulk of its population occurring in the Dominican Republic (Hispaniola). All the available indices on population trends for the species in Canada indicate a decline in abundance and range. The main threat facing the Bicknell's Thrush is habitat loss and degradation. The wintering area is particularly subject to pressures such as subsistence farming, logging and human-caused fires. In the breeding range, Bicknell's Thrush habitats are mainly affected by forestry practices as well as the creation of wind farms.

On December 20, 2016, the proposed *Recovery Strategy for the Bicknell's Thrush (Catharus bicknelli)* in Canada was posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry. A recovery strategy is a planning document that identifies what needs to be done to stop or reverse the decline of a species. It sets population and distribution objectives and identifies the broad strategies and general approaches to meet them. You can read the proposed Recovery Strategy and comment at:

http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/document/default_e.cfm?documentID=3057.

This document will remain on the registry for a 60-day comment period ending February 18, 2017.

After the public comment period of 60 days, Environment and Climate Change Canada will then review comments and integrate them as appropriate, after which the final version of the recovery strategy will be posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry.

The Government of Canada is committed to working with interested parties to ensure that species at risk are protected. The *Species at Risk Act* supports this commitment by providing the public with an opportunity to comment on proposed recovery documents.

Environment and Climate Change Canada is inviting you to comment on the Action Plan for Multiple Species of Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora in Canada.

The primary focus of this action plan is on the five federally listed endangered and threatened Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora (ACPF) species: Pink Coreopsis (*Coreopsis rosea*); Thread-leaved Sundew (*Drosera filiformis*); Goldencrest (*Lophiola aurea*); Plymouth Gentian (*Sabatia kennedyana*); and Water Pennywort (*Hydrocotyle umbellata*). However, this plan also addresses other high priority ACPF species including: Eastern Baccharis (*Baccharis halmifolia*); Sweet Pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*); Tubercled Spike-rush (*Eleocharis tuberculosa*); New Jersey Rush (*Juncus caesariensis*); Redroot (*Lachnanthes caroliniana*); Eastern Lilaeopsis (*Lilaeopsis chinensis*); Spotted Pondweed (*Potamogeton pulcher*); and Long's Bulrush (*Scirpus longii*).

Critical habitat was fully identified in the *Amended Recovery Strategy and Management Plan for Multiple Species of Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora in Canada* for Pink Coreopsis, Water Pennywort, Plymouth Gentian, Thread-leaved Sundew and Goldencrest. No critical habitat is identified in the proposed action plan.

This action plan, to be implemented in Nova Scotia, addresses the objectives and recommended strategic approaches outlined in the Amended Recovery Strategy and Management Plan. Recovery measures are organized according to the seven objectives identified in the Amended Recovery Strategy and Management Plan and the implementation schedule identifies which threats the measures address, indicates the level of priority for each action, and delineates timelines. You can read the proposed action plan and comment at:

http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/document/default_e.cfm?documentID=3056.

After the public comment period ends on February 18, 2017, Environment and Climate Change Canada will review comments and integrate them as appropriate, after which the final version of the action plan will be posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry.

Thank you for your interest in the protection of species at risk in Canada.

[Subscribe](#) to receive updates on public consultations added to the Species at Risk Public Registry.

Independent Advisory Board for Senate Appointments. The Minister for Democratic Institutions [recently announced](#) the launch of the second cycle of the permanent process. The Advisory Board is now accepting applications for six (6) upcoming Senate vacancies in 2017 for the provinces of New Brunswick (1), Nova Scotia (3) and Ontario (2). Applications will be accepted online until Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 23:59 ET. Detailed information on how to apply is provided on the IABSA [website](#).

Environmental News:

2 Articles: Alton Gas update / Triangle (the fracking company) bankruptcy backwash in Nova Scotia:

[Alton Gas closes office but pushes ahead with storage project](#)

[The Sweet Deal Triangle Got with the Province](#)

Time for drilling decision in Gulf

This decision on oil and gas in the Gulf of St Lawrence will affect all Canadian coastal inland waters.

Excellent op ed by Sierra Club's Gretchen Fitzgerald

<http://www.theguardian.pe.ca/opinion/2017/1/13/time-for-drilling-decision-in-gulf.html>

Supreme Court rules fracking critic doesn't have charter right to sue

Alberta woman challenged provision that grants energy regulator immunity from lawsuits

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/supreme-court-fracking-charter-1.3934002>

Halifax North West Trails **November 2016 Newsletter** is now available on our web site [here](#).

Solar Nova Scotia Newsletter can be found [here](#).

View the **December 2016** edition of the **Organic Friends' E-Zine**, brought to you by the Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada (OACC).

You can find the latest issue online (<http://coinatlantic.ca/index.php/aczisc-coastal-update-e-newsletter/latest-issue>) or through our many social media pages! Please check out **COINAtlantic** on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Youtube](#), and our [website](#) for regular updates and news-at-it-happens!

FUNDY TIDINGS The Quarterly Newsletter of the Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership (BoFEP)

November 2016 ~ Autumn Issue: http://www.bofep.org/wpbofep/?page_id=416

"**Behind the Brands**" report by Oxfam- (click on the graphic to enlarge it) assesses the "social and environmental policies of the world's ten largest food and beverage companies and calls on them to take the critical next steps to create a just food system." The Big 10 global conglomerates and details are below.

<http://www.nationofchange.org/2017/01/03/new-infographic-shows-10-companies-control-every-brand-know/>

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.



Nova Scotia
Environmental Network
Connecting for a Sustainable Future

nseenvironmentalnetwork@gmail.com

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!