



Nova Scotia
Environmental Network
Connecting for a Sustainable Future

Eco Connections Newsletter August 2017

Welcome!

Below you will find **events** (starting on page 2), various **jobs postings** (page 4), lots of **opportunities** to have your voice heard (page 5), and **news** (page 13). *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.

Register is now open!

Environment Connects NS

"A gathering to celebrate and build capacity for environmental conservation in NS"

What: Four themes: coastal, water, energy & climate, and forests. Panel discussions, children's events, entertainment, caucus meetings, and more

When: Sept. 22nd and 23rd (Friday/Saturday)

Where: Glengary Inn and Douglas Street Community Centre, Truro, NS

Find out more and register here before September 15: click [HERE](#)

Get in touch!

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/NovaScotiaEnvironmentalNetwork

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

Email: nseenvironmentalnetwork@gmail.com

Membership: Membership Matters!

A big incentive is reduced registration fees for paid Members. Not sure you're a member? Get in touch with Joanne at jonilight3@yahoo.ca.

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.

NSEN CAUCUSES

Water Caucus:

The next NSEN Water Caucus meeting is TBA. Be in touch for more info: Amy Buckland-Nicks: amy.buckland-nicks@merseytobeatic.ca.

Environmental and Sustainability Education Caucus:

Be in touch with Karen for further details: karenmckendry@eastlink.ca. See more of the members of the ESE Caucus here: <https://nsenvironmentalnetwork.com/about/caucuses/esec/>

Upcoming Member Events & Events of Interest

August

Chainsaw Maintenance and Use Workshop — Men and Women

August 18-20: Weekend chainsaw workshop for men and women with certified instructor Patrick Allan at the Harrison Lewis Centre. Come away able to safely wield this incredibly powerful, helpful – and potentially dangerous – tool. This is a hands-on workshop – far more than demonstration – where a maximum of eight participants learn by doing; saw operation and maintenance, from the basics to advanced techniques including directional felling. Bring your own safety boots (plus your own saw and safety gear if you have and wish to bring these. Otherwise all is provided). Class limited to eight.

Register soon. \$325 covers tuition, a comfortable bed for two nights in one of four bunk houses, home-cooked meals, and an amazing opportunity to learn and apply skills presented by one of the best professional instructors – if not the best – in Canada. Read testimonial and register at www.HarrisonLewisCentre.org. For more information phone [902-646-1554](tel:902-646-1554). (PS: Live in the area or are on vacation? You may choose to stay home or park your partner or family at nearby Raddall Provincial Park or White Point Resort while attending workshop – inquire for details.)

Beach Cleanup & Bird Walk - August 27, 10am-3pm, Hemeons Head

Help keep the bird habitat at Hemeons Head healthy by lending a hand! After the beach cleanup, learn about the fascinating shorebirds that return to the Hemeons Head Conservation Lands each year with a guided bird walk co-hosted by the Nature Trust and Bird Studies Canada.

Cost: Free

For questions or to register, please contact the Nova Scotia Nature Trust at events@nsnt.ca or [902-425-5263](tel:902-425-5263).

[Download or view a pdf version of the events list here.](#) [Version française ici](#)

Hope for Wildlife Annual Open House

5909 Highway 207 in Seaforth

Sunday, August 27th, 2017

12 - 4 pm, rain or shine

Get a “behind-the-scenes” look at wildlife rescue & rehabilitation with access to bird and mammal nurseries, recovery units, a marine unit, a flight cage and our new Wildlife Hospital. There will also be wildlife displays, demonstrations, kids’ activities, live music, barbecue, silent auction, and local crafts & food. All funds raised support Hope for Wildlife’s efforts to help injured and orphaned wildlife in Nova Scotia. Parking allowed on one side of road only and a shuttle is on site to bring you from your car to the event if needed. FREE ADMISSION

For more information, please visit <https://www.hopeforwildlife.net/annual-open-house/>

September and onward...

Halifax BioBlitz hosted by Ecology Action Centre and Canadian Wildlife Federation – September 11-17th

Save the date for a week of fun activities during HaliBlitz! HaliBlitz will connect expert and amateur Naturalists with anyone interested in our natural world, all working together to identify species in our parks and wilderness spaces and celebrate our local biodiversity.

Join us for species identification and guided hikes at Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes Wilderness Area throughout [#HaliBlitz](https://twitter.com/HaliBlitz) week, and for our main festival at Point Pleasant Park on Saturday, September 16th!

Find out more and sign-up to participate at www.ecologyaction.ca/bioblitz

Sackville Rivers Association 14th Annual Dinner Auction September 15th, 2017

6-9pm, Lower Sackville Legion, \$30 a ticket.

See full details here: <http://sackvillerivers.ns.ca/sras-14th-annual-dinner-auction-september-15th-2017/>

Fall Programs Registration open for Wild Child!

Starting in September: <https://wildchildns.wordpress.com/programs/>

Programs located in Cole Harbour and Bedford!

Backlands Hike - September 23, 1-4pm, Purcell's Cove Conservation Lands

Explore the fireadapted Jack Pine barrens of the Purcells Cove Backlands. Witness the incredible rejuvenation from the 2009 forest fire. The trail is moderately challenging.

Cost: \$15

For questions or to register, please contact the Nova Scotia Nature Trust at events@nsnt.ca or [902-425-5263](tel:902-425-5263).

[Download or view a pdf version of the events list here.](#) [Version française ici](#)

Invasive Plant Removal & Bird Hike - September 30, 10am-3pm, Hemeon's Head

Help us remove a patch of an invasive rose species that threatens potential Piping Plover breeding habitat on the beach at Hemeons Head. Afterwards, learn about the migrant shorebirds that use the mudflats of Matthews Lake on their southwards migration.

Cost: Free

For questions or to register, please contact the Nova Scotia Nature Trust at events@nsnt.ca or [902-425-5263](tel:902-425-5263).

[Download or view a pdf version of the events list here.](#) [Version française ici](#)

Training in the Wetland Ecosystem Service Protocol for Atlantic Canada (WESP-AC)

Presenter: Dr. Paul Adamus, Oregon State University

October 10th-11th 2017 8:30a.m. to 5 p.m. (includes lunch and snacks/coffee for both days)

Beaubassin Field Station, Aulac, NB Cost: \$260 CAD

Capacity is limited to approximately 25 people

WESP is a template for creating spreadsheet tools (standardised data forms and models) that rapidly assess the ecosystem services of wetlands, in support of environmental impact assessments and monitoring of restoration projects. A regionalised version of WESP was created and officially required for use in the Province of Alberta in 2014, as well as by the states of Oregon and (in part) Alaska. Regionalisation for the Maritime provinces, resulting in a tool called WESP-AC, began last year with development and calibration in New Brunswick, sponsored by NB ELG and Environment Canada. Extensions of that will be completed in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island this year.

This two day course on WESP-AC will be useful to environmental consultants and agency staff required to assess wetland functions and benefits, monitor restored wetlands, or conduct watershed assessments. The first day the creator of WESP will initially explain its origins, overall structure, and how it is being used elsewhere. He will conclude by explaining components of each of the models which automatically compute relative estimates of a wetland's importance for three hydrologic functions, four water quality functions, nine habitat functions, and carbon storage. We will assess approximately 4 wetlands over the two days. Please be prepared with field gear for rain or shine.

Please confirm your attendance by August 31st by contacting Cassandra Colwell at Cassandra.colwell@qnb.ca or by phone at [1-506-643-2098](tel:1-506-643-2098). Once confirmed we will provide you with payment methods.

Join the Nature Trust for our **20th Annual Dinner and Auction!** Help us celebrate the year's conservation successes and network with like-minded friends while raising critical funds for the Nature Trust's continued work saving the most unique and outstanding places across Nova Scotia.

We invite you to head out *Into the Wild* with us. Our special guest speaker **Brian Keating** will take us on an incredible escape into the wild spaces that he has explored all over the world, from the Canadian Arctic to the African savannahs. We know that this will be evening to remember!

Details:

October 26, 2017

Cunard Centre, Halifax

Doors open at 5:30pm, and tickets are held at the door

Get your ticket today! Early bird deadline is Friday June 30, 2017.

Early bird price: Tickets \$125/Tables \$1250 (10 seats)

Regular price (after June 30th): Ticket \$150/Tables \$1500

Call [\(902\) 425-5263](tel:9024255263) to reserve your spot!

Or you can [download the ticket order form](#), and either email it to office@nsnt.ca or send it to our mailing address: PO Box 284 Station Main, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3Y3.

Job Postings

WRITERS NEEDED

<https://GoodWork.ca/931693>

Sharing Success Stories about the Environment to Inspire Action

Position: Guest Writers

Type: volunteer

Publication: Positive Planet

Location: virtual / anywhere

Guest write for Positive Planet!

We are looking for guest writers to contribute a monthly post. We want contributors from all over, so we get a diverse range of positive stories.

Contact me with a short explanation of why you want to write about positive environmental stories.

Positive Planet: <http://positiveplanet.ca>

Contact: <http://positiveplanet.ca/contact>

INDIGENOUS CLIMATE ACTION TOOLKIT COORDINATOR/RESEARCHER <https://GoodWork.ca/981414>

Position: Indigenous Climate Action Toolkit Coordinator/Researcher

Type: full-time 6 month contract

Organization: Indigenous Climate Action

Location: anywhere in Canada

START DATE For Position: October 1st, 2017

CLOSING DATE For Applications: September 1st, 2017

Please send your resume along with references and a cover letter to: ICAjobs@gmail.com with the subject: 'Application - ICA Toolkit Coordinator'

INDIGENOUS CLIMATE ACTION PART TIME ADMINISTRATOR <https://GoodWork.ca/971414>

Position: Administrator - Part-time

Organization: Indigenous Climate Action

Location: anywhere in Canada

START DATE For Position: September 1st, 2017

CLOSING DATE For Applications: August 15th, 2017

Please send your resume along with your cover letter to: ICAjobs@gmail.com with the subject: 'Application - ICA Administrator'

Position: Senior Lead, Development & Services <https://GoodWork.ca/977224>

Organization: QUEST - Quality Urban Energy Systems of Tomorrow

Location: anywhere in Canada, Ontario

To apply for this position, please submit a cover letter, résumé, three names of references with the contact information, and an indication of an available start date, to:

info@questcanada.org

Deadline for application is August 30, 2017, at 12:00 pm EDT. Applicants are encouraged to apply earlier and up until the deadline. Interviews will take place the week of September 5th.

Field Technician - Energy Assessor <https://GoodWork.ca/927124>

Organization: Summerhill

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Please submit your cover letter and resume by August 23rd, 2017 to: dethier@summerhill.com subject: Field Technician, Energy Assessor

Project Coordinator, Energy Efficiency Specialist <https://GoodWork.ca/937124>

Organization: Summerhill

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Please submit your cover letter and resume by August 23rd, 2017 to: dethier@summerhill.com subject: Project Coordinator, Energy Efficiency Specialist

Catering Manager <http://FoodWork.ca/964124>

Organization: Pavia Gallery - Espresso Bar & Cafe

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

When applying please include your resume and cover letter as an all-in-one PDF. Applicants must apply by email only to office@paviagallery.com

Environmental Opportunities

It's time to reach for your camera or smartphone and head out to where the bumble bees are buzzing.

We've just launched the second annual **Great Canadian Bumble Bee Count**, running now until September 15th. Each submission before September 16th counts as one chance for a \$25 gift certificate to use on products from our friends at **Sustainable Outdoors Co.**

Canadian scientists need to know: **where are the bees**

And, well, there's just not enough scientists to do enough counting of bumble bees. They need committed individuals like you and me to take photos along with observations about the floral hosts, the weather and any other bees bumbling around.

Can we count on you as a Census-taker?

We've made taking part easy with our **Census Cards** that you can view on your smart phone or download and print to take with you. They show the colouring of female workers from many of the species – **one card for Western Canada's bumble bees** and **one for Eastern Canada**. If you see a bumble bee with a basket of pollen stuck to its leg – you'll know it's a female (worker) – the male (drones) don't collect pollen.

See full details here: <http://foecanada.org/en/issues/bumble-bee-count/>

NSERC's PromoScience Webinars

In preparation for the submission of PromoScience applications, NSERC will host webinars dedicated to walking participants through the process and to providing practical tips for applying.

Meeting Name: PromoScience Webinar for Applicants

Date: August 22nd, 2017 (in English) and/or August 24th, 2017 (in French)

Time: 1:00 to 2:30 pm (Ottawa time – ET)

First time attending an Adobe Connect meeting?

[Test your connection](#)

[Get a quick overview](#)

Linux users must [install the add-in](#) for Adobe Connect.

To join the August 22nd 2017 meeting in English, click here: <http://nsercofcanada.adobeconnect.com/promoscience/>

To join the August 24th 2017 meeting in French, click

here. http://nsercofcanada.adobeconnect.com/programme_promoscience/

- Enter your name
- Click "Enter Room"

We have updated our virtual meetings with VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). If you are experiencing technical difficulties with the videoconference, we will ask you to join through teleconference using the information below. Please **do not** join the teleconference unless you are instructed to do so.

- Local dial-in: [613-960-7514](tel:613-960-7514)
- Toll-free dial-in: [1-877-413-4790](tel:1-877-413-4790)
- Enter the conference ID: 7462843

Here are a few points to make these webinars as productive as possible:

- If you use the teleconference, your phone will be muted as to not disturb the presenter or other participants.
- If your page freezes at any time during the webinar, try to refresh it.
- You can submit questions at any time using the Q&A feature.
- At the end of the session, questions will be read aloud by an NSERC representative and answered.

The Government of Canada wishes to inform you of an upcoming multi-stakeholder workshop regarding proposed regulations on formaldehyde emissions from composite wood products.

More information on this initiative can be found on the [Formaldehyde](https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances.html) webpage accessible on the Government of Canada website <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances.html>.

Interested parties who wish to participate in this initiative may include stakeholders in the composite wood sector such as producers, importers, and companies who distribute/sell composite wood products. This may include hardwood plywood, medium-density fibreboard, particleboard, and laminated products as well as finished goods made from these composite wood products. Other interested stakeholders may include non-governmental organizations; Indigenous peoples; labour organizations; provincial and territorial governments.

On July 31, 2017, the Government of Canada published a consultation document to inform stakeholders and solicit comments on the proposed regulatory approach. The consultation document can be found at <http://www.ec.gc.ca/lcpe-cepa/default.asp?lang=En&n=00B2F79C-1>. Comments on this consultation document are welcome until September 1, 2017 [30 days after its date of publication]. Information on how to submit comments relating to this consultation document is provided below.

The multi-stakeholder workshop is the next step in the consultation process which was launched after publication of the Notice of Intent on March 18, 2017 in the [Canada Gazette, Part I](#). This is further to the initial webinars which were held on April 5 and April 19, 2017. The workshop will provide interested parties with an overview of the initiative and will solicit input to inform the development of the proposed regulations which are intended to be published in 2018.

The workshop will be held on September 6, 2017 in Ottawa, Ontario and will also be accessible through WebEx. Interested parties must submit their interest in participating in the workshop by August 16, 2017. Interested parties are invited to participate in a short online questionnaire to help inform the workshop agenda and focus the discussions. To participate, click on the following link <http://form.simplesurvey.com/f/l/FormaldehydePre-Consultation> and submit your responses by August 16, 2017. Note that this process is being administered by an independent third party – the Intersol Group Ltd. Responses are anonymous and will be held in the strictest confidence.

Comments regarding the consultation document, requests to participate in the workshop and pre-consultation activities, and all other inquiries related to this initiative should be directed to the attention of:

Substances Management Information Line

Telephone: [1-800-567-1999](tel:1-800-567-1999) (Canada or the United States) or [819-938-3232](tel:819-938-3232)

E-mail: eccc.substances.eccc@canada.ca

You can subscribe to the following link to receive e-mail updates on activities related to the Chemicals Management Plan: <http://www.chemicalsubstanceschimiques.gc.ca/listserv/index-eng.php>

Please note that the deadline for applications to be on the Pest Management Regulatory Agency's (PMRA) Pest Management Advisory Council (PMAC) has been extended to September 1st, 2017.

The security clearances will be done once applications have been approved.

You may send your application to the PMRA Secretariat: HC PMAC Secretariat SC CCLA hc.pmac.secretariat.sc.ccla@hc-sc.gc.ca

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/consumer-product-safety/pesticides-pest-management/public/call-for-membership-applications.html>

The IPCC Secretariat for Canada wishes to inform you that the First Order Draft of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C is available for expert review from July 31 to September 24, 2017.

To register as an expert reviewer, please [click here](#). Registration closes on September 17, 2017.

This expert review process is intended to ensure that the report provides a balanced and comprehensive assessment of the latest scientific findings. Additional information on the role of Expert Reviewer is available [here](#) and in this [information note](#) explaining the Expert Review process.

Please note: the IPCC Secretariat for Canada will undertake a Government review of the Second Order Draft in 2018 and will solicit input at that time.

Thank you,

The IPCC Secretariat for Canada

Science & Technology Branch

Environment and Climate Change Canada

Government of Canada

351 Boulevard Saint-Joseph, 7th floor

Workshop Callout: The Loaded Ladle's "To The Root 2017"

The Loaded Ladle is currently looking for proposals for workshops, events, talks, skill shares or other events for our 2017 To The Root event. Read on, share widely, and contact us at totherootseries@gmail.com

Who is the Loaded Ladle?

The Loaded Ladle is an open cooperative of students + community members fighting unjust global food systems and cooking, serving, and eating meals together. We host free meals four days a week in the Dal Student Union Building, as well as at community events through our solidarity serving program. We also run a variety of other programs; learn more here: <https://loadedladle.com>

What is To The Root?

A series of free workshops, talks, get-togethers, and community meals that will give us a chance to learn, connect, and broaden our understanding of food justice. We're hoping to bring together students, community members, and food activists to dig into food politics! This year, TTR will be held from Friday October 13th - Sunday October 15th.

We're currently looking for proposals for workshops, talks, skill shares, shared meals, or other events for this series!

We're looking for people who want to share a skill, lead a workshop, facilitate a discussion and/or meal, or share their knowledge in other ways! No prior experience is required to be a facilitator, and workshops may be quite informal.

We're looking for events that are somehow related to food politics, including workshops relating to practical skills. Potential topics include (but are not limited to):

- Hands-on workshops related to growing/making/finding your own food, medicines/remedies, products, etc.
- What food security/insecurity looks like locally
- African Nova Scotian food culture and experiences
- Decolonization and food sovereignty
- The climate crisis and its intersection with food and food justice/politics
- Newcomer experiences and knowledge related to food justice/politics

We are especially interested in sharing the work and experiences of local food justice initiatives and communities.

Some details:

The workshops will be taking place at Veith House on October 13th - 15th (Friday through Sunday). The Ladle will be offering a \$100 honorarium and bus tickets to/from Veith House to workshop facilitators living in or near Halifax. If you're applying from outside of Halifax, please let us know where you're applying from and how much funding you would need to come to Halifax. We do have some funds set aside to pay for travel for workshop facilitators applying from outside of Halifax. We also have funds to pay for any workshop materials.

How do I apply to be a facilitator?

Just answer the following questions, and email them to: totherootseries@gmail.com by August 25th!

1. Describe the event you want to facilitate! What material would you be covering? What form would the event take (a workshop, a discussion, etc)? What would participants get from the event?
2. What experiences or knowledges do you have that you would bring to this event?
3. How would you make the event as accessible as possible?
4. When during the dates of October 13, 14, or 15 would you be available to facilitate the event?
5. What materials would you need for this event (for example, a projector, paper and pens, mason jars)?
6. Let us know about any accessibility needs you may have as a facilitator!

If you have any questions about the workshop series or applying to be a facilitator, please get in touch with totherootseries@gmail.com! Looking forward to hearing from you!

We are excited to invite you to the Saint Mary's University Annual Volunteer Fair on Thursday, September 21st, 2017.

As a presenter, your organization can display potential volunteer opportunities to all Saint Mary's students. The Volunteer Fair provides an excellent opportunity to add to your current volunteer base and prepare you for your next volunteer recruitment. In addition, it provides the students of Saint Mary's a chance to identify which experiential learning opportunities best fit their interests and skills.

The Volunteer Fair will begin at **11:30 am** and end at **3:00 pm** with set up starting at 10:30 am. We encourage all organizations attending to commit to remain at the Fair until 3:00 pm as a number of students will be attending at 2:15 pm, when their classes end.

The Fair will be held in the Conference Hall of the Loyola Academic Complex (2nd floor – Room 290) and will be free of charge to all attending organizations. There will be no audiovisual equipment provided, organizations are responsible for

bringing their own. On the day of the fair, a limited number of electrical outlets will be available on a first come first serve basis. There will be access to Wi-Fi Internet, so make sure your devices are charged!
You **must RSVP** to book a table at the event, and we suggest doing so as soon as possible, as there are a limited number of tables available and the event often sells out. Please **RSVP** through our [online registration](#).
If you have any additional questions regarding the Volunteer Fair, please contact **Maeve Mulroy** or **Carmen Burke** at [902-496-8743](tel:902-496-8743) or via e-mail at cdc@smu.ca.

2nd Youth Nova Scotia Nature Writing and Art Contest

The Nature Writing and Art Contest is inviting youth in ages 7-15 years who live in Nova Scotia to submit a **written piece** (short story, non-fiction, poetry, etc.) **OR** an **original artwork** (painting, drawing, collage, etc.) that is inspired by: native plants or animals of Nova Scotia (*native means a species that occurs naturally in a region*), an adventure, personal moment, or happy experience in Nova Scotia's wild places (lake, river, ocean, forest, trail), an injustice that impacts nature in Nova Scotia

Key Dates: Contest Opens: **June 30 2017**, Contest Closes: **October 31 2017**.

Categories:

Writing

Junior – ages 7-11

Senior – ages 12-15

Art

Junior – ages 7-11

Senior – ages 12-15

Prizes: Total of **\$1200** in cash prizes. Each Category has a: First Place prize valued at \$150, Second Place prize valued at \$100, Third Place prize valued at \$50

Rules and Regulations:

This contest is open to youth in ages 7-15 who live in Nova Scotia.

Students may enter as many times as they wish; however, each youth will be limited to one prize per contest.

Writing Category specifications

Entries can be in French, English or Mi'kmaq and be a maximum of 600 words

Entries may be in any form (short story, non-fiction, poetry, etc.)

It is advisable written work be accompanied by a photo or artwork that supports the subject

Entries must include a title page with the author's name – do not put author's name on manuscript pages to ensure anonymous judging

Entries must be original, written by the author, have been written in 2017 and not previously published

Art Category specifications

Wildlife species (plants and animals) and or habitat represented in artwork must be native to Nova Scotia – exotic or domestic animals and plants will not be accepted.

All formats and mediums are accepted (except photographs): drawing, painting, collage, fibre arts, sculpture etc.

All art entries must be made by hand. Photographs and computer-generated artwork will not be accepted

Entries must include a title with artist's name on the back of the artwork – do not put artist's name on front of art work or a signature to ensure anonymous judging

Artwork should be accompanied by a written description that supports the subject

Artwork must be the original work made by the artist and created in 2017

Deadlines and Submissions:

Entries must be dropped off with a completed Entry Form (download form: [2nd Youth Nature Art and Writing Contest Entry Form 2017](#)) to the Museum of Natural History in Halifax, or mailed to: Young Naturalists Club, c/o The Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax NS, B3H 3A6

Entries must be postmarked by October 31st or dropped off job at the Museum of Natural History by this date.

Entries will not be returned unless you enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope or request to pick them up at the Museum of Natural History

By entering you give YNC permission to use your entry on its website, in its communications, or for fundraising

<http://nature1st.net/ync/events/youth-nova-scotia-nature-writing-and-art-contest/>

No oil and gas exploration in protected ocean areas! <https://act.leadnow.ca/protect-oceans/>

Robin Rigby Trust

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 students studying here are encouraged to work outside Canada, while applicants from other countries are encouraged to collaborate on projects in coastal regions of Canada. **The deadline for the present round of funding is October 31, 2017.** If interested, or if you know a person who may be interested, please review information at www.smu.ca/academics/robin-rigby-trust.html

Funding Announcement: Environment and Climate Change Canada's Environmental Damages Fund

Environmental Damages Fund (EDF) uses funds received as a result of environmental violations to fund projects which benefit the environment in four categories (in order of priority): restoration, environmental quality improvement, research, and/or education & awareness. Eligible EDF applicants include non-governmental organizations, universities and academic institutions, Indigenous groups and provincial, territorial and municipal governments. The upcoming project application deadlines are July 28, 2017 and October 31, 2017.

Check out the available funds, listed by province at: <https://www.ec.gc.ca/edf-fde/default.asp?lang=En&n=137DC913-1>

Check out information on the Environmental Damages Fund at: <http://www.ec.gc.ca/edf-fde/>

The Hants County Exhibition would like to invite you to be a vendor at the 2017 Hants Co. Green & Local. The Hants Co. Green & Local aims to bring local, green or sustainable product and services together to showcase what our amazing local area has to offer and give our local business an opportunity to sell their products.

Every year the Exhibition brings over 30 000 people through its gates over the two weekends. Hants Co. Green & Local will be free for every person who visits the exhibition and will be sure to attract even more people throughout Nova Scotia. Each vendor spot is approximately 10' with an 8' table included. There will be spaces along the walls as well as spots through the centre of the room for vendors who wish for that option. Each spot costs \$100+HST a weekend (Saturday and Sunday only), Saturday noon - 7:00pm and Sunday noon - 6:00pm September 16th & 17th or September 23rd & 24th. There are also a few spots to give demos/lessons on your products or services. If you are interested please let me know.

Spots are limited so book your spot now!

Kind Regards,

Katie Godon

katiegodon@hotmail.com

Event Coordinator

Hants Co Green & Local

My name is Rick Cauvier owner of **Rick's Environmental Solutions**. My company's main goal is to reduce air pollution by disposing of all waste wood whether it is land clearing, emerald ash borer beetle infested, land fill sites where developers take waste lumber to be buried. Open burning is not the answer and grinding pollutes the air with wood dust and diesel fumes and is very expensive. My method to solve this problem is an **Air Curtain Burner**. I can very effectively dispose of 10 to 12 tons of waste wood per hour with very low impact on the environment. The air quality from this machine has passed Environment Canada's own air quality tests. Please visit my site for more information. resltd.net Thank you.

Hi NSEN folks,

Larry Ladd here from the Community Advisory Group for Aerojet Superfund Site Issues in Sacramento. Who in Nova Scotia is following the environmental impact of the unsymmetrical dimethyl hydrazine that will be used at the proposed Canso spaceport? Here in Rancho Cordova we are still dealing with the impact of UDMH spills from 60 years ago. Please make sure they address all of the breakdown products of UDMH, not just the nitrosodimethylamine. See Figure 1 and Table 1 here: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3091350/> In particular, anything Canada can do to advance toxicological knowledge about tetramethyl tetrazene beyond these French studies <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26082396> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28498558> would be much appreciated.

Thanks,

Larry Ladd

11064 Santiam River Court

Rancho Cordova CA 95670 USA

tel [916-852-8188](tel:916-852-8188)

We are looking for environmentally minded folks to share the 2nd lot on our property at Mill Lake, Hubbards. Our historic cabin sits on 500' of waterfront. We are prepared to subdivide to create a 2nd lot with 250' of waterfront. This is a great opportunity to build a cottage or just camp close to metro on a beautiful lake. Summer has arrived. The boat is in the water and we would love to connect to pursue this opportunity with like-minded people. Details can be found at:

<https://www.ecoproperty.ca/listings/waterfront-property-for-sale-near-halifax-nova-scotia-39811>

Hello,

My name is Caitlin Peace-Williams, and I am a Master's student in the Community Development program at Acadia University. My research is focused on the social acceptance of tidal energy development in Nova Scotia. I am working on a thesis under the supervision of Dr. John Colton. The goal of this research is to examine social licence (also known as social acceptance) in the context of tidal energy development in Nova Scotia. I am particularly interested in how the following four factors support the social acceptance of tidal energy; role of public education, role of baseline research, level of understanding of technology risks and impacts, and the role of community and economic development. I hope to gain knowledge about how these factors contribute to social licence (acceptance), specifically in relation to tidal energy development in Nova Scotia. I am hoping to speak to a wide range of stakeholders. I am contacting you to ask if you would be interested in speaking with me about your perspectives regarding the social acceptance of tidal energy development in Nova Scotia.

If you are interested, please let me know and we can organize a time that is convenient for you. Participation is completely voluntary and confidentiality will be maintained throughout the research process. You will be asked to sign an Informed Consent Form that explains the research project and what your participation will entail. It also notes that any results from the study will be treated confidentially. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Thank you for your time,

Caitlin Peace-Williams

[902-698-0806](tel:902-698-0806)

caitlinpeace-williams@hotmail.com

Are you aware of an upcoming decision by the Minister of Agriculture to permit Ontario beehives to be trucked to NS for pollination this season?

Ontario has small hive beetle, and we do NOT want that pest here! In addition, it seems crazy for the government to fund pollination expansion in this province and then allow special permits for beekeepers in other (especially "pest-ier") jurisdictions to fill NS pollination contracts....even though the NS Beekeepers Association says there are clearly enough hives in NS to do the job.

Re. Small Hive Beetle -- these hive pests harass the bees, and their maggots slime the honey, thus ruining it. Small-scale beekeepers such as ourselves will be the most negatively impacted by the introduction of the beetle.

I've started an Avaaz **petition**. The language is a bit sensationalist but I was trying to be factual + click-bait at the same time.

Please sign and share!! We will need a lot of signatures and shares if there is any hope to stop the importation. Share on Facebook and email.

https://secure.avaaz.org/en/petition/Nova_Scotia_Premier_Stephen_McNeil_Protect_Nova_Scotia_Honey_Bees_and_bee_keepers_from_new_threats/?preview=live

Thanks so much,

Michelle McPherson, MSc

Apiculture + Ecology + Education

www.mcphersonconservation.com

Green Teacher has recently launched a YouTube Channel. To date, we've posted 8 videos on our website, with several more in various editing stages. In time, we hope this will grow into a valuable resource for educators. Among those currently posted, are those describing:

- + How Google Earth was used by high school students as part of an invasive species removal project
- + How an elementary school in a northern resource town created partnerships so that their students could explore the natural and cultural environment in their area.
- + How to build better bug houses – and pack waste free lunches.

Check out the posted videos here: <https://greenteacher.com/check-out-these-videos/>

In essence, we're keen to both receive short (i.e. 2-6 minute), practical videos – edited or unedited – from teachers and other youth educators on a wide variety of topics. Like the articles and activities we seek for *Green Teacher* magazine, we're looking for innovative green learning strategies on a wide variety of topics. Your presentation should provide sufficient detail and enough guidance that will enable viewers to replicate the activity in their own communities. Your video should specify early on the age group for which your learning activity or strategy is most appropriate. For more details of what we're looking for, check out: <https://greenteacher.com/send-us-your-videos/> Finally, if you see a short enviro-ed video that deserves a wider audience, send us a quick note about it.

Happy spring!
Tim Grant, Editor
Green Teacher
401 Richmond St, S-410
Toronto, ON M5V 3A8
[416-960-1244](tel:416-960-1244), Fax: [416-340-2429](tel:416-340-2429), tim@greenteacher.com,



Hi, this might be of interest to NSEN members and friends:
I've attached a sign proof (to be in Green print only) that is 16" x 24" on a corrugated plastic sheet so that it can stand up well over several years of being exposed to weather. Available after April 3rd. Available for a donation of \$ 6.00 ea. incl hst . fob Tatamagouche, N.S. Posts of 1 x 2 x 32 " are \$ 1.50 each extra. Assembled total \$ 8.00 hst incl. Email orders to; donwilson@gmail.com. After the next 3 weeks we will have some other locations for pickup around Nova Scotia. Group orders for 15 + signs to one location served by a courier or Canada Post location are Prepaid.
-- Thanks,

Don Wilson - Cell Tel [1 902 662 4190](tel:19026624190)
12 Maclews Road , RR 1
Brule Point, N.S. B0K1V0

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 for further information.

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](#). Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.

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)

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.

See ya there!

Watch for Wildlife (W4W) NS is a 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.

Everyone deserves a warm home.

We all deserve to be comfortable in our home. For homeowners who qualify, the HomeWarming team provides a free comprehensive energy audit and works with you to determine the energy efficiency upgrades that make the most sense for your home. Then the team takes care of managing sub-contractors to have the upgrades completed at no cost to you. Am I eligible? You can apply if:

- Your combined family income is under the levels shown in the chart to the right
- You own a single-unit home/mobile home located in Nova Scotia and can provide proof of ownership
- You live in your home year-round, it is your primary residence, and you do not plan to sell in the near future
- Your home has not previously received upgrades through HomeWarming or the Low Income Homeowner Service.

# OF PEOPLE LIVING IN YOUR HOME	MAXIMUM ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME (Line 236 from your Tax Notice of Assessment)
1 person	\$21,186
2 to 4 people	\$39,367
5 or more people	\$56,064

Applications can be filled online at www.homewarmingapply.ca or downloaded at www.homewarming.ca
 Have questions? Call toll free at [1-877-434-2136](tel:1-877-434-2136) or visit homewarming.ca

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

Environmental News

Greetings, the **August 2017 Newsletter and event announcements are available on the Halifax North West Trails** web site [here](#).

In the meantime, we are in need of more board members including a Secretary to take minutes at our regular Board Meetings...no heavy lifting required! Learn more about our neighbourhoods through the trail lens. Join us on one of several scheduled walks and decide if this is a volunteer activity you would enjoy.
 Happy summer hiking!

Coastal Update July 2017 edition is now available and ready for you to view—see attached! You can also find the latest issue [online](#), or through our social media channels—[Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

The Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership newsletter is here: http://www.bofep.org/wpbofep/?page_id=416

Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust Board update

Progress has been made again on the Nine Mile River bridge project. Congratulations to Board Member Mike Marriott and his crew of helpful volunteers from the St. Margaret's Bay Safety-Minded ATV Association who have led the project and will have it completed within the next few weeks. See the story posted to the [Trust website](#).

Many thanks to our new Board Member Pam Lovelace for helping to improve and refresh the website making it easier for you to navigate and learn more Trust news.

If anyone has pictures to share from excursions within the Five Bridges Wilderness area, please share them with us. We are always looking for new visuals.

Sierra Club statement regarding NAFTA

Posted on August 15, 2017

<http://www.sierraclub.ca/en/Statement-regarding-NAFTA-renegotiations-August-2017>

NAFTA MUST BE BETTER! Send your letter today!

NAFTA renegotiation will take place this week and the **Canadian government is seeking input on the renegotiation (see [our statement sent to national media today](#).)**

Please make sure your voice is heard and [demand a NAFTA that protects our environment and supports worker and human rights.](#)

For Immediate Release

Sobey Family Protects Land on the St. Mary's River: Nova Scotia Nature Trust's Conservation Legacy Grows

Sherbrooke, NS (August 15, 2017) – At a special public celebration in Sherbrooke on Saturday, David and Faye Sobey entrusted their 30 acre property on the St. Mary's River to the care of the Nova Scotia Nature Trust. The property provides critical habitat for several endangered species but is also steeped in memories for the Sobey family who have been visiting this part of the river for over 80 years.

The property builds on long-time Nature Trust conservation work on the St. Mary's river, one of Nova Scotia's most ecologically rich and important rivers. The new property brings their conservation network to nine protected areas encompassing over 800 acres of important forests and wetlands on this river.

The Sobey property at Mitchells Pool, just north of Sherbrook Village, includes 30 acres beautiful floodplain forest, a rare ecosystem in Nova Scotia. Its large oaks, maples, and yellow birch provide cooling shade essential for the rivers aquatic life. The property's stillwater, brooks, swamp and island provide important habitat for a diversity of wildlife, from ducks and forest birds to amphibians and reptiles including wood turtles, a species on Canada's endangered species list.

The Nature Trust's Executive Director, Bonnie Sutherland, noted, "David and Faye Sobey's generous gift of land on the St. Mary's is a significant conservation achievement. It protects some of the last intact, mature floodplain forest in the province, and critical habitat for endangered birds and turtles."

Over the years, the Sobey's took note as friends and neighbours on the river took action to protect their lands through the Nature Trust, including late Sandy and Shirley Cameron.

Wanting to ensure the Mitchell's Pool lands were kept pristine, and recognizing the importance of intact forests for the river's health, the Sobey's decided donate their land to the Nature Trust.

But their motivation went beyond conservation. Like so many Nova Scotians, the Sobey's have a deep connection to the land, steeped in precious family memories. David Sobey began visiting the river with his family as a young boy and the river grew to be a significant part of his life.

"In the late 1930s my father began taking my older brother Bill and I and my younger brother Donald, down to the St. Mary's River," Mr. Sobey noted. "As a youngster, at college, this was a great place for my buddies and me to come. And way back in 1953, Faye and I had even our honeymoon here at Mitchells Pool. And we've kept coming down here over the years with our family. So, the river has always been a part of my life."

Ms. Sutherland noted that while the Nature Trust's work is based on and driven by conservation science, "The real magic comes from the people we work with and their connection to these special places. It has been such a joy to work with Mr. Sobey to preserve this treasured place, so close to his heart."

Many landowners who partner with the Nature Trust are concerned about the future of their land and inspired by the Nature Trust's potential role as a steward of the lands they love.

Mr. Sobey noted, "It's not just my time as the caretaker of the land that matters, or my son Paul's time—it's in perpetuity. And I feel that the property is in good hands with the Nature Trust. They are committed to looking after it, forever. And they've certainly shown they can look after these properties."

At a community event celebrating the Sobey's conservation gift on the weekend, Ms. Sutherland noted, "What a wonderful contribution David and Faye Sobey have made to protecting Nova Scotia's natural legacy and the legacy of the St. Mary's River. They have preserved a special place where future generations can come to enjoy and experience that same wonder that captured David Sobey's heart when he was just a boy."

The River has a rich human history, once famous as an Atlantic Salmon river, and is loved by many, locals and visitors alike, as an iconic scenic, recreational and wilderness treasure. The local community has been actively working for years to restore and protect the watershed and its fish populations through the St. Mary's River Association, and welcomed news of a new protected area on the river.

Asked about what he hopes for the property, Mr. Sobey replied, "The Mitchells Pool lands are going to be a part of Nova Scotia that keeps its natural beauty forever. I hope that my children and grandchildren and other people too, will enjoy visiting this land like I have since I was just a young fella."

The Nature Trust's conservation work on the St. Mary's River, and protecting Nova Scotia's freshwater and endangered species legacy, is generously supported by many individuals and organizations. Major supporters include the Nova Scotia Crown Share Land Legacy Trust, the David and Faye Sobey Foundation, Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Marguerite Hubbard Charitable Foundation. Donations to support conservation work on the river, and conservation efforts across the province, can be made at www.nsnt.ca or by calling (902) 425-5263.

Last week, the government announced that they had approved the tire burning pilot project, marking a shift in this province from recycling tires to burning them, and going against the clear decision made by government in 2007 not to allow burning.

The Ecology Action Centre is deeply concerned with this decision, particularly given that it was reached without conducting a GHG life cycle assessment of burning tires vs. recycling them. In a press release on Friday, we asked the government to, at very minimum, suspend the decision until they have done a life cycle assessment.

We need your help to fight this decision. Here's what you can do:

1. *Share a link to our petition

<<https://ecologyaction.ca/sites/ecologyaction.ca/modules/civCRM/extern/url.php?u=10953&qid=946650>>*

2. Call or *email <info@iainrankin.ca?subject=Don%27t%20Burn%20Tires%20In%20Nova%20Scotia>*

Environment

Minister Iain Rankin and your MLA and ask them to reverse their decision: (902) 404-7036

Our full response to the government outlining our concerns with this decision was released Friday morning. Read it online HERE: <<https://ecologyaction.ca/sites/ecologyaction.ca/modules/civicrm/extern/url.php?u=10954&qid=946650>>

This story is from Halifax Examiner's subscription site- you have to be a subscriber. It's cheap and worth supporting.

The article puts together all the pieces as predicted- we're running out of gas; we've cultivated a dependence (although there are only 6,000 Heritage Gas users), Alton Gas is to help supply those and expand as the off shore shuts down-the back story is there are a lot of folks hoping for fracking in our future. They will divide the First Nations by offering them projects that they should be entitled to already have up and running. Shame.

<https://www.halifaxexaminer.ca/environment/the-new-gas-economy-the-offshore-pipelines-and-alton-gas/>

The new gas economy: the offshore, pipelines, and Alton Gas

Most of the natural gas used in Nova Scotia came from the Sable Island gas field. But now, as the offshore gas industry collapses, Heritage Gas is looking to increase sales and keep prices low by importing gas from the U.S. and western Canada to the Alton Gas storage project.

July 4, 2017 By Jennifer Henderson 1 Comment

The Shubenacadie River.

No one who keeps an eye on the Nova Scotia energy scene was surprised to learn that EnCana plans to halt production at its ill-starred Deep Panuke offshore gas development in two to three years.

Not only was the project 10 years late and a billion dollars over budget, water problems have plagued it, reducing production to the winter months only, when prices are highest. But the timing of EnCana's decision also coincides with the planned shutdown of five steadily producing gas fields off Sable Island operated by ExxonMobil that have generated \$2 billion in royalties for the province. This effectively puts an end to a local source of natural gas that's been available for 20 years.

Federal Sustainable Development Strategy (FSDS) News

It's been an exciting week for sustainable development in Canada.

We released the [Spring 2017 update to the 2016–2019 FSDS](#) with:

- Results for short-term milestones
- Updates to key priorities, including announcements in Budget 2017

We provided the [Government Response to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development](#) that shows:

- Progress in implementing the recommendations made in the Standing Committee's report [Federal Sustainability for Future Generations-a Report Following an Assessment of the Federal Sustainable Development Act](#).

We tabled [proposed amendments to the Federal Sustainable Development Act](#) that:

- Expand the purpose and scope;
- Set a high bar for transparency, improved reporting, and oversight;
- Extend coverage to more than 90 federal departments and agencies; and,
- Continue the conversation on sustainability with Indigenous peoples and Canadians, respecting diversity-particularly youth-and gender parity.

Read the [Government Response](#) and [proposed amendments to the Act](#) to see how they respond to the Standing Committee's report that received unanimous support.

Thank you,

Sustainable Development Office

Environment and Climate Change Canada

ec.bdd-sdo.ec@canada.ca

Active transportation for Canada, now!

Greetings

Momentum is building in the campaign for a national active transportation strategy for Canada. See our new campaign website: www.activetransportationcanada.weebly.com.

A national AT strategy will set targets and improve conditions for increased everyday walking, cycling, and active school travel. It's an idea whose time has come.

Canada's Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, continues to express enthusiasm for a national AT strategy, most recently at the national Bike Summit on June 1. Her office is pursuing funds from various ministries to make it happen.

At the invitation of McKenna's office, a proposal for strategy development has been submitted by an alliance of Canada Bikes, Green Communities Canada, and the National Active & Safe Routes to School Working Group. The proposal includes research, extensive Canada-wide consultation, and collaborative strategy development.

Here's what you can do:

- Spread the word, including the link to the campaign website above.
- If you aren't already on the email list, get connected. See Take Action.
www.activetransportationcanada.weebly.com/take-action.html
- Join the list of organizational supporters, or upgrade your support by sending your logo for posting on the website (see Supporters)
- Write to Minister McKenna, the PM, and other federal ministers expressing your support for an active transportation strategy. (For contacts, see Take Action).

Questions, comments, suggestions? Contact: info@activetransportationalliance.ca.

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!