



Nova Scotia
Environmental Network
Connecting for a Sustainable Future

Eco Connections Newsletter June 2017

Welcome!

Below you will find **events** (starting on page 2), various **jobs postings** (page 5), lots of **opportunities** to have your voice heard (page 9), and **news** (page 15). *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.

Save the date!

Environment Connects NS

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

What: Four themes: coastal, water, energy & climate, and forests

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

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

More info: amy.buckland-nicks@merseytobeatic.ca

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.

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 and Kelly Schnare kellyb@sierraclub.ca.

Environmental and Sustainability Education Caucus:

The next NSEN ESEC meeting will be a Summer Solstice Gathering at the Deanery, Friday June 23rd!

The event is beginning at 10:00am, and wrapping up in the afternoon at around 3:00. It will be a day devoted to bringing environmental educators together to discuss current opportunities and programs. We're also very lucky to have Gary Schneider of MacPhail Woodlot in PEI present on an inspiring program involving the naturalization of school grounds and public spaces. Here is the agenda items so far. Please contact myself or Lauren Latour at laureneclatour@gmail.com if you have any agenda additions:

- A meeting in the morning to introduce ourselves, get an understanding of the space, report /share on events and programs over the summer, and a little visioning for the ESEC going forward
 - Tour of The Deanery Project (covering the site, and our numerous examples of natural building, sustainable energy, low impact living, and the Eastern Shore ecosystems
 - Potluck lunch
 - Keynote presentation by Gary Schneider and discussion of best practices in outdoor and environmental education
- Once we wrap the day up, you're free to hike the trails, take in the waterfront, or otherwise explore the Eastern Shore. For those interested in sticking around, we have campsites and indoor bunkies available for a low fee, and a full day workshop with Gary Scheinder available on Saturday the 24th.

To register for the Summer Solstice, either as a participant, or presenter, [click here](#).

Access the [rideshare sign-up here](#) to hitch a ride or provide one.

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

June

Hike NS's schedule of courses and workshops are now available for 2017. Our offerings include:

Re-Connecting with Nature Workshops: <https://www.hikenovascotia.ca/courses--workshops--re-connecting/>

Field Leader - Hiking Courses: <https://www.hikenovascotia.ca/courses--workshops--field-leader--hiking/>

Field Leader - Winter Module: <https://www.hikenovascotia.ca/courses--workshops--field-leader---winter/>

Field Leader - Overnight Module: <https://www.hikenovascotia.ca/courses--workshops--field-leader---overnight/>

Navigation Maps & Compass Course: <https://www.hikenovascotia.ca/courses--workshops--navigation/>

WILD Connect Course: <https://www.hikenovascotia.ca/courses--workshops--wild-connect/>

Please join us for the **final free event** in the Capping Carbon | Trading Talk panel series on **developing Nova Scotia's cap-and-trade system**. We're excited to announce that we've added Ray Ritcey, of the Maritimes Energy Association, to our lineup of speakers. Please share this invitation widely through your networks!

Over the last four months we've hosted a series of public panel discussions to learn more about how cap-and-trade will impact our shared environment, society, and economy.

In this series finale we will report back with **what we've heard** from the first five panels, and panelists will pitch their ideas for **how to design** an effective and equitable cap-and-trade system for Nova Scotia. We will then open the floor for a lively discussion and Q&A with the public. See you there.

Series Finale | Design Decisions

June 29th, 6:00pm – 7:30pm

6135 University Ave., Halifax, NS

Ondaatje Auditorium

RSVP via [Facebook](#)

Featuring:

Dr. Meinhard Doelle, Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie

Dr. Kate Ervine, International Development Studies, SMU

Ray Ritcey, CEO, Maritimes Energy Association

Stephen Thomas, Energy Campaign Coordinator, Ecology Action Centre and moderator **Lisa Mitchell**, East Coast Environmental Law.

These events will be livestreamed via Facebook Live on the Ecology Action Centre's [page](#). Missed an earlier event? You can [watch it online](#). Contact gabby@ecologyaction.ca for more information.

Solar Basics Course

This course is offered by Solar NS cost free.

June 23, 6:30-9:00 PM

Location: **James McConnell Library (50 Falmouth St, Sydney)**

Instructor: Don Roscoe

Please register in advance:

info@solarns.ca

<https://www.facebook.com/events/419202555128990/>

In the Solar Basics Course, you will learn the underlying basics of the relationship between us and the Sun, the amount of resource that's available to us, and the ways that we can harness that resource. We'll look at how we can convert that resource into electricity, thermal energy in the form of hot water and space heating, and the fundamentals of how those work and what you can expect to get out of them, and a rough idea of how much they cost.

We'll look at the remarkable Lunenburg Foundry's LIFE design which can melt metals and vaporize copper at ground level, using a couple of curved mirrors!

You will also learn how to build a home that costs the same as a traditional, non-solar house, but gets 50% of its energy from the sun. This type of home will be the subject of the Construction Course to follow, the next day.

This course is intended for the general public.

Passive Solar Construction Course

Fee: \$50 students & seniors, \$60 single, \$80 couples

June 24, 9:00am -- 5:00pm

Location: **Membertou Trade and Convention Centre, Muin Room**

Instructor: Don Roscoe

Please register in advance:

info@solarns.ca

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1899170293687234/>

This course was specifically created for anyone who is planning to build passive solar homes with air recirculated heat storage slabs.

This is a one day course, covering these topics:

- Passive Solar Basics
- Ground Insulation (instead of frost walls)
- Heat Storage Slab: construction, techniques, and details
- Air Recirculation & Filtration Systems: design and components
- System Balancing & Controls

Your registration fee includes a CD with detail sheets, drawings and visuals and coffee, but not lunch. Participants are encouraged to eat lunch at the adjoining Kijus Restaurant. Please arrive at 8:30 to sign in.

Dear friends, colleagues, and supporters of a sustainable economy,

Grassroots support is essential to fuel political will towards a renewable and sustainable economy. [Register here](#) for one of our summer webinars to find out more about the Community Climate Hub initiative or [join a Hub](#) to take action in your community.

Warmly,

Matthew & the Climate Reality Project Team

Matthew Chapman

National Campaign Coordinator | Coordonnateur de campagnes nationales

Direct: [514-834-4186](tel:514-834-4186) climatereality.ca mchapman@climatereality.ca

50 Sainte-Catherine Ouest, Bureau 540, Montréal, QC, H2X 3V4

July and onward...

What are Forests For?: Join Atlantic forestry's "Three amigos for healthy forests" for an outstanding woodlot workshop **July 28-30** at the **Harrison Lewis Centre**. Author **Jamie Simpson** (Restoring the Acadian Forest), naturalist **Donna Crossland**, and

forest carbon sequestration pioneer **Dale Prest**, for a weekend addressing the many ways forests benefit society – while imparting practical knowledge for understanding and managing your own woodlot. \$325 covers tuition, a bunk bed two nights, home-cooked meals, and an amazing opportunity to spend time with three excellent, engaging communicators. Register soon at www.HarrisonLewisCentre.org. The small class, limited to 15, is filling fast. For more information phone [902-646-1554](tel:902-646-1554).

My name is Lorne Mlotek and I train professionals to be prepared to sit for their LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) accreditation exams. Over the last six years I have travelled to over 200 cities to conduct LEED Training courses which have helped over 7000 participants of all ages pass their respective exam at a **100% pass rate** across North America. I am now coming back to Halifax to host a workshop and prepare you and your colleagues for changes in the new version 4 of LEED.

Sustainability cannot be left out of the equation and LEED certification is the premier designation to stay current and marketable in the built-environment. I was hoping you could send a reminder to members in the Nova Scotia Environmental Network about this great opportunity to get involved in sustainability through LEED Training coming up on **July 13th**!

[Invitation to the Nova Scotia Environmental Network - Become LEED Accredited! – Upcoming Courses – for distribution Halifax - LEED Green Associate \(GA\)](#)

When: July 13th 2017 – 6:00PM to 10:00 PM

Where: Dalhousie University - Sexton Campus B-Building - Room B227 - <https://goo.gl/maps/Mftmt6RcUz62>

Registration: <http://leadinggreen.com/halifax>

- or - If you know others interested in PEI or NB:

[PEI](#)

When: July 10th 2017 – 6:00PM to 10:00 PM

Where: University of PEI – McDougall Hall – Room 329 - <https://goo.gl/maps/EPoGHyYXLiy>

Registration: <http://leadinggreen.com/pei>

[FREDERICTON, NB](#)

When: July 8th 2017 – 1:00PM to 5:00 PM

Where: University of New Brunswick – Tilley – Room 404 - <https://goo.gl/maps/XqFFRCq6d4L2>

Registration: <http://leadinggreen.com/newbrunswick>

Interested in getting involved in the Green Building and sustainability Industry? Opportunities are plentiful and passing your LEED professional designation is required to get involved!

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is simply a green-rating point system to certify a building's sustainability. Just as Buildings can be LEED certified, students and professional can become LEED Accredited themselves. The LEED Green Associate (GA) credential is the only professional designation used to market yourself to employers and clients and show you have certified knowledge in the green building industry.

To date, this course and its materials have proven to be instrumental in helping over 7000 students pass their exam at a 100% pass rate and does not require any specific background. This course is offered at a quarter of the price and time as the competition and it never expires!

Cost: \$300 (\$200 for full time students)

To register for the class please visit: <http://leadinggreen.ca/halifax>

You can register via PayPal or RSVP your attendance by registering at the bottom of the page

[FOR MORE INFORMATION CLICK HERE!](#)

Regards,

Lorne Mlotek B.A.Sc., LEED AP BD+C, O+M

President, LeadingGreen

[416-824-2677](tel:416-824-2677)

B740 Sandford Fleming Building

10 King's College Road, Toronto, M5S 3G4

LinkedIN - ca.linkedin.com/in/lmlotek

Permaculture Design Certification Intensive (with P3 Permaculture) August 14th-27th

Back by popular demand, P3 will be returning this summer to lead a two-week, internationally recognized Permaculture Design Certification Course.

From the P3 Website:

This course aims to equip students to feel confident in their ability to design positive solutions in their gardens, in their communities, and in their own lives. At P3 Permaculture we emphasize that permaculture goes beyond agriculture; permaculture is a holistic design system that we can apply on any scale and in any situation. The first principle of permaculture is "Observe and Interact." Close observation of the natural principles that drive ecological systems is one of the cornerstones of permaculture. In permaculture we believe that nature knows best, and that designs based on earth's logic is the best way to heal broken systems.

Our curriculum pays particular attention to energy, water, and food systems, as well as various aspects of social permaculture including social economies, and self and community care. For more information, or to register, visit P3's [webpage](#) for the event.

Course registration fee includes meals and accommodations for two weeks, in addition to all course supplies.

Invest In Your Business. Invest In A Graduate (Nova Scotia) *Available to companies of 100 employees or less, start-ups, non-profits and social enterprises.* Would you like some financial help with the next person you hire? The province's Graduate to Opportunity program helps small businesses hire recent university and college graduates by providing salary support. Find out more [HERE](#), or call [902.424.6000](tel:902.424.6000).

(Canada-wide) **Canada Summer Jobs Program** Canada Summer Jobs provides funding to help employers create summer job opportunities for students. It is designed to focus on local priorities, while helping both students and their communities.

Canada Summer Jobs:

- provides work experiences for students
- supports organizations, including those that provide important community services; and
- recognizes that local circumstances, community needs and priorities vary widely

For more information, [CLICK HERE](#)

Job Postings

Position: Quality Assurance Specialist, Plant Manager <http://FoodWork.ca/957804>

Organization: Afashionado Fishmongers

Location: Truro/Millbrook, Nova Scotia

Afashionado Fishmongers is a community-minded provider of fresh and fresh-frozen seafood dedicated to bringing low-impact fishing traditions back to the plates of consumers. We strive to build and maintain close relationships with those who catch our fish, and work hard to help foster a fair, transparent, traceable, and sustainable exchange of seafood in the Maritimes! We sell seafood with a story.

Job title: Quality Assurance Specialist, Plant Manager

Job Location: Millbrook, NS

Start Date: July 14th

How to apply: Please submit applications, including a cover letter and CV to: hello@afashionado.ca Deadline to apply July 14th.

Position: Research and Administrative Assistant <https://GoodWork.ca/958804>

Type: summer job / summer student position

Employer: Community Energy Co-op

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Wage rate: \$15.00 /hr

Duration of employment: 9 weeks, 30 hrs/week

Start Date: June 26, 2017

Work Tasks & Responsibilities:

- 1) Conduct online research and write articles about sustainable home design, renovation, and products;
- 2) Assist with data collection for a study of the solar energy industry;
- 3) Assist with communications with solar industry stakeholders and community organizations;
- 4) Help design solar energy projects for community organizations;
- 6) Update website content;

Eligibility

- Full time student – returning to studies in September.
- Youth age 15 to 30

Requirements:

- The job has aspects ranging from technical to writing, and from research to administration, so the applicant can be from a

wide range of educational backgrounds, with a demonstrated interest in sustainable energy work.

- Student in Energy Sustainability Engineering Technology, Engineering, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, or Business Management.
- Experience or demonstrated interest in renewable energy development is an asset;
- Demonstrated ability to work independently with periodic check-ins.

This position is based at an office in Halifax, Monday to Thursday, with some possible travel and some flexibility around doing a portion of the work from other locations.

Background:

The Community Energy Co-op is a worker-owned co-operative enterprise providing services in sustainable energy consulting, design, education and installation. Be a part of the transition to a renewable energy future.

How to Apply:

Send a resume and cover letter by June 19 (4:00 pm Atlantic Time) to:

Wayne Groszko Email: wayne@communityenergy.nb.ca Phone: [506 324 5053](tel:5063245053)

Position: Research and Evaluation Coordinator (Food Team) - Halifax (maternity leave replacement)

<http://FoodWork.ca/991804>

Organization: Ecology Action Centre

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Start: August 28, 2017

End: September 7, 2018

Note: Candidate is ideally able to join the team retreat August 16-18th in Cape Breton and then start full time on Monday August 28th.

37.5 hours per week @ \$21-23/hour, based on experience

Cost-shared benefits plan and 4 weeks paid vacation per year

Hours: Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 pm. Some evening/weekend work will be required. Some travel required.

Location: This position will be based at our Halifax office.

TO APPLY

Please email a cover letter and resume (including 2 references) to Miranda Cobb, Research and Evaluation Coordinator, at: miranda@ecologyaction.ca

Please submit your application in the form of a pdf document with required elements in the following order: cover letter, resume, references.

DUE DATE: Friday June 23rd, 2017 by 4pm

Position: Leadership Giving Facilitator <https://GoodWork.ca/928704>

Organization: Nova Scotia Nature Trust

Location: Dartmouth, Halifax Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia

Position Requirements:

The position will involve travel throughout the province and both evening and weekend work. It will also involve some 'field' travel involving visiting Nature Trust protected areas, travelling by boat, hiking or paddling. The candidate must have a valid driver's license.

Commensurate with experience. We offer health benefits, retirement savings benefits and potential for flex-time.

Application Process:

Please send cover letter, resume and list of 3 references to:

Christina Nunn, Office and Volunteer Coordinator

Nova Scotia Nature Trust

PO Box 284 Station Main, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3Y3

Email: office@nsnt.ca

Start Date: As soon as possible. The search committee will begin to consider potential candidates immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

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>

Position: Door-To-Door Canvasser, Membership Recruitment Team <https://GoodWork.ca/979883>

Organization: Ecology Action Centre

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

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

This is your chance to dip your toes into the charitable sector, to learn about the ecology of our province, gain meaningful employment to help build your career and a chance to cultivate lifelong valuable skills in communications and fundraising. Membership canvassing is an incredibly important position at the Ecology Action Centre and is valued as such. Canvassers travel door-to-door to different communities in our province and invite new membership to our organization. Hours are Monday to Friday, 3 – 9pm with some flexibility as required.

We offer:

- \$15-\$17.50 per hour, 30-35 hours per week.
- A diverse supportive team who genuinely care about developing your skills and career.
- Opportunities to advance into a variety of positions at the Ecology Action Centre
- Being a part of organization that is local, impacts your life and the environment which sustains us all.
- Access to contract and benefits

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

To Apply:

Please send a cover letter, resume and two references to:

dana@ecologyaction.ca

We thank all applicants for their time and interest, however only short-listed applicants will be contacted.

The Ecology Action Centre is committed to employment equity and encourages applications from individuals in traditionally marginalized groups such as: racialized people, Indigenous people, lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender and queer people, and persons with disabilities. We encourage applicants to self-identify in their cover letter or application if they are a member of a marginalized community. Diversity is a stated value of the Ecology Action Centre. Moreover, diversity in the EAC community is a strength that we seek to cultivate. It is the responsibility of every employee of EAC to foster a culture that embraces and promotes diversity.

Position: Youth Advisory Board Members - The Great Waters Challenge <https://GoodWork.ca/948204>

Organization: Waterlution

Location: from home, anywhere in Canada

Waterlution is seeking youth advisory board (YAB) members for the Great Waters Challenge. Waterlution is looking for young leaders from across Canada to join this youth-led water initiative for its second year (Term : July 2017 - March 2018)

English: <https://goo.gl/forms/hlHK98MoY7VvWzHA3>

French: <https://goo.gl/forms/X6BOWkeDju8ZlqU72>

The deadline to apply is June 29, 2017. The number of Youth Advisory Board members to be selected is between 10-20 depending on quality of applications and geographic representation. All applicants notified of outcome: July 17th 2017

Questions? Please contact Dona Geagea, Great Waters Challenge Project Lead at dona@waterlution.org .

Title: Maintenance Staff <https://GoodWork.ca/948883>

Organization: Cabot Shores Wilderness Resort & Retreat Centre

Location: Cabot Shores, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia (some on-site housing)

Cabot Shores Wilderness Resort is an eco-friendly resort located on Cape Breton Island with unique accommodations such as yurts, geodesic domes, family sized cabins, lodge rooms and more. With 55 acres of serene natural landscape on the famous Cabot Trail on Cape Breton Island, Cabot Shores is a mix of outdoor adventure, relaxation, and cultural and wellness exploration. www.cabotshores.com

Maintenance Staff job description:

- Maintenance of grounds (lawn mowing, trail maintenance and more)
- Small repairs
- Maintenance and cleaning of hot tubs
- Garbage & Recycling
- Knowledge of use of hand tools
- Moving furniture and other large objects
- Assisting with building projects, paint jobs
- Wood cutting, splitting, stacking, safe use of chain saw desired
- Good verbal communication skills
- Willing to work outdoors regardless of weather
- Organized, self-directed
- Maintain an organized tools and shop area
- Ability to diagnose maintenance problems and be able to fix or refer to appropriate trades person (carpenter, electrician, plumber)

Salary: Starts at \$12/hour. Some onsite housing is available.

Start date: Mid-June 2017,

End date: Mid-October (may be part time in September & October)

To apply: Send resume and 2 references to: Barbara@cabotshores.com

Title: Guest Services/Front Desk <https://GoodWork.ca/938883>

Organization: Cabot Shores Wilderness Resort & Retreat Centre

Location: Cabot Shores, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia

Cabot Shores Wilderness Resort and Retreat Centre is looking for Guest Services/Front Desk staff. We are an eco-friendly resort located on the Atlantic coast of Cape Breton Island. Visit our website at <http://www.cabotshores.com> or <http://www.facebook.com/cabotshores> to learn more about us.

Description:

The GUEST SERVICES/Front DESK area is a hub for our guests, staff and visitors and requires detail-oriented and diligent staff to run it. This central part of Cabot Shores is involved with all guest relations, hospitality, and communication around amenities such as local hikes, Cape Breton Cultural events, reservations in our bistro, tours, etc. It is a busy, fast-paced environment and tasks and responsibilities may vary from day to day.

Essential Qualifications

Abilities:

- Have or develop excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Administrative - manages all incoming inquiries through telephone, website and travel sites
- Guest relations - including registration, orientation and payment, tourism information and general guiding; booking tours and providing information on on-site and local activities
- Act as Liaison - Interfaces with various resort departments (Kitchen, dining room, housekeeping, grounds/maintenance)
- Ability to work under pressure, to multi-task, to prioritize tasks, to take initiative,
- Pay attention to detail and fully completing tasks, be willing to learn and be coachable
- Have personal integrity

Knowledge (Either needs to know or be able to learn easily):

- Experience with computers and basic Microsoft software.
- Knowledge of Wordpress, social media and graphic design experience is desired.
- This role is both social and administrative
- Knowledge of local Cape Breton Island cultural events and outdoor activities
- Knowledge of French language is helpful

Rate of Pay: Starting at \$11

Start date: Mid-June 2017

End date: Mid-October (may be part time in September & October)

Some Staff Housing and access to kitchen are available onsite.

How to Apply: Send cover letter, resume, and 2 references; we will send skills inventory and other materials. We will conduct interview via skype with suitable applicants. barbara@cabotshores.com

North River Kayak Tours & River Nest Cabins <https://GoodWork.ca/962304>

Base Manager Position

Position: North River Kayak Tours & Cabins Base Manager
Type: full-time seasonal/summer, rustic accommodations (see below)
Organization: North River Kayak Tours
Location: Baddeck, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia

Environmental Opportunities

Join March Against Monsanto. As you might know this march will be held globally on the 20th of May.

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

Role: Executive Committee member <https://GoodWork.ca/932504>

Organization: Sierra Club Canada Foundation - Atlantic Canada Chapter

Location: Atlantic Canada

If you are interested in being a member of the ACC Executive Committee, please email:

EmmaH@sierraclub.ca

with a short statement including your reasons for applying, any qualifications or skills we should know about, and your province of residence.

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)

The Commission on Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Council will be holding its annual meeting and events in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island on June 27-28. The CEC is a trilateral, intergovernmental organization between Canada, Mexico and the United States that works to address environmental concerns and opportunities for North America. This year, the Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, will host the CEC meetings which will focus on encouraging innovation to advance clean growth. The [CEC website](#) provides more information on the meeting.

Over the course of two days, there will be several opportunities for public participation, including:

Let's Talk Innovation, an engagement with the participants on "Innovation for clean growth in North America." This will include a moderated Q&A session with Minister McKenna and her counterparts

Connecting Communities for a #HealthyFuture: An Interactive Exhibit will give the public the opportunity to learn more about the Commission's work to protect and enhance North America's environment.

A one-day public forum of the [CEC Joint Public Advisory Committee \(JPAC\)](#) will be held, on June 27, in which North American coastal, shoreline, and riverbank communities share their innovative local solutions to the environmental challenges they face.

In order to participate in these events, **you must [register online](#) by June 22.** The *Let's Talk Innovation* discussion will also be available via webcast if you are not able to attend in person. Participants joining the webcast must also register by June 22. I hope you will take advantage of this unique opportunity to engage and network with others who are passionate about finding innovative solutions to North America's environmental challenges.

I also encourage you to share this information with your networks.

Kind regards,

Geoff

Geoffrey Mercer

Regional Director General – Atlantic and Quebec Regions

Environment and Climate Change Canada / Government of Canada
geoff.mercer@canada.ca / Tel: [902-426-6700](tel:902-426-6700)

Here is the Latest News from the CMP:

Transparency in Chemicals Management Plan Risk Assessment Activities:

The proposed Approach to promote transparency in Chemicals Management Plan risk assessment activities was published for a public comment period ending on June 30, 2017.

www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances/chemicals-management-plan/initiatives/transparency-risk-assessment-activities.html

Cobalt and cobalt-containing substances:

The Final Screening Assessment for Cobalt and Cobalt-containing Substances and the revised Federal Environmental Quality Guidelines for Cobalt were published. A Proposed Risk Management Approach Document for Cobalt and Soluble Cobalt-compounds was also published for a 60-day public comment period ending on July 26, 2017.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances/substance-groupings-initiative/cobalt.html>

Volatile organic compounds (Petroleum Sector) :

The proposed Regulations Respecting Reduction in the Release of Volatile Organic Compounds (Petroleum Sector) pursuant to subsection 93(1) of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on July 26, 2017.

<http://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2017/2017-05-27/html/reg2-eng.php>

Position: Farm Apprentice(s) <http://FoodWork.ca/946904>

Type: full-time with training, room and board and stipend

Organization: Cochrane Family Farm

Location: Upper Stewiacke, Nova Scotia

Cochrane Family Farm (Cochrane Family Seeds) is looking for apprentice(s) interested in working and learning on our 30 acre certified organic farm in Nova Scotia.

Training, room and board and stipend offered. Individuals who are interested in organic vegetable, flower and herb production and seed growing and saving practices may apply. Possibility of employment opportunity after as well. Start date as soon as possible.

To apply email us at: cochranefamilyfarm@bellaliant.com or call [902-671-2378](tel:902-671-2378)

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

Hello,

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

Do you need to flex your OCD muscles?

Solar Nova Scotia has a job for you!

We would like one or a couple people to go over our new website with a fine-toothed comb and as far as practical, make it perfect; it's a matter of reading, trying out links, and commenting on writing style - and possibly finding out-and-out errors. I'll expect you to return a list of specific corrections which one of our site editors will then enact.

Please write back ASAP; there are only a few pages to do, so it will not be a lot of work. I'll write you back tomorrow morning to give you the URL and the details.

--

Daniel MacKay

Secretary, Solar Nova Scotia

daniel@bonmot.ca

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,

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://sackvillerivers.ns.ca/>.



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.

Seeya there!

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.

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** 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/>

Water Access Cottage/Camp Lot - Looking for folks committed to Sustainability

Have you been looking for some land close to Halifax? We are looking to subdivide our water access lot on Mill Lake at Hubbards. We will only do so if we find some folks with compatible values to protect and steward the land and water. The lot would have 250ft of water frontage @ 1-2 acres (pending subdivision) with access to an adjacent woodlot. It is a 5 minutes boat trip down the lake. Parking & boat slip are available. Power line around the lake or you can go totally off-grid with solar and paddle. If interested call Nancy or Cathy at [\(902\) 454-3542](tel:9024543542).

EAC is circulating a petition opposing the burning of used tires in Brookfield, Nova Scotia by Lafarge. A decision could be made any day by the Minister of Environment, so we are hoping to reach as many people, as soon as possible. <https://ecologyaction.ca/civicrm/petition/sign?sid=4&reset=1>

Hi All

This sounds like one of those subject headings that you want to ignore, but if you read this far, you did not. This is a project my son has been working on for 7 years, starting with an awarding winning documentary film, and it is pretty amazing (I know I am biased but).

Siku brings together Inuit communities in the North through a web network that integrates indigenous knowledge, science, technology, culture, curriculum and community. It is a program of the Arctic Eider Society, and is a top ten finalist in the Google Impact Challenge for Canadian non-profits across all sectors. The top five get \$750,000 for their program.

Please watch [this video](#) to appreciate the great work. Vote for it if you choose for the Google Challenge.

Thank you

Alan Warner

Professor

Department of Community Development

Environmental & Sustainability Studies

Acadia University

alan.warner@acadiu.ca
<http://commdev.acadiu.ca>
[902-585-1562](tel:902-585-1562)

This is to advise that on May 8, 2017, Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal registered the **Highway 101 Twinning Three Mile Plains to Falmouth Project for environmental assessment**, in accordance with Part IV of the Environment Act.

The purpose of the proposed project is to twin and upgrade an existing two-lane section of Highway 101 from Truck 14 (Exit 5) at Three Mile Plains to an area 2.5 km west of the Falmouth Connector (Exit 7) in Hants County, Nova Scotia. The existing highway section to be upgraded and twinned is approximately 9.5 kilometers. The project also includes upgrading of an existing tidal gate structure (aboteau) at the Avon River causeway. Detailed design of the project is expected to be completed in 2018 but some construction could be initiated in the fall of 2017. It is anticipated that construction will take approximately five years.

On May 8, 2017, 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 **June 7, 2017** to be considered in this environmental assessment. **Comments are requested to be provided via e-mail if possible.**

On or before June 27, 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, Halifax

Nova Scotia, B3J 2P8

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

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

e-mail: Helen.Yeh@novascotia.ca

Sign the petition, "Minister LeBlanc: Open the Avon River Causeway: Restore the River and the Atlantic Salmon population!"

https://www.change.org/p/minister-leblanc-open-the-avon-river-causeway-restore-the-river-and-the-atlantic-salmon-population?utm_medium=email&utm_source=notification&utm_campaign=petition_signer_receipt&share_context=signature_receipt&recruiter=70497092

Environmental News

June 2017 Newsletter of the Halifax North West Trails Association is available [here](#).

Coastal Update May 2017 edition is now available and ready for you to view [online](#), or through our social media channels—[Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Indigenous engagement on Energy East to be the focus of new 4-person NEB team

The National Energy Board is dedicating a four-person team to make contact with Indigenous people and the general public about the Energy East pipeline over the next six weeks. <http://www.cbc.ca/1.4146521>

Happy to share the new edition of [The Bridge](#) newsletter offering several articles, photos and updates from the **Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust**. The volunteers have been very busy and appreciate all the support from Trust members and friends like you. Continue to watch our [Website](#) and follow our [Facebook page](#) for photos and more information. Thank you for your continued support of the Trust. We hope to see you as we celebrate several significant achievements over the next few weeks.

- The **Nine Mile River Bridge** project is almost complete. Final installation and securing of the bridge in place across the Nine Mile River is hoped to be completed mid-May, weather depending.

- The **Walking Guide to the Old St. Margaret's Bay Road**, second edition, is printing now and will be ready for distribution later this month. Several book launch events are planned to celebrate with the author and contributors available to sign copies and review the new maps and information with guests. All books are free although a donation/Membership to the Trust is always appreciated. Books will be provided widely across the community including Tantallon Library, Keshen Goodman Library, Prospect Community Centre and with sister environmental organizations and their members.

We are super excited to announce the launch of our new website in this issue of the Coastal Update, and are encouraging feedback at this time, regarding the functionality of the site. Please visit us at: <http://www.coinatlantic.ca/>. Any feedback can be sent to myself at coinatlantic@dal.ca.

PLEASE NOTE we are still looking for feedback on our newsletter and hope that you would take a few moments to please visit our short survey and let us know what you think. The survey can be found at the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KPQ7NZ7>.

As always, thank you in advance for sharing the Coastal Update with your networks and for taking the time to provide any feedback!

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

Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication (EECOM) Spring eeNewsletter

With the seasonal changes, an abundance of environmental learning opportunities have emerged! We hope you enjoy this seasonal update.

[CaNOE: In the Sunshine](#)

[Professional Development Opportunities](#)

[Grants & Awards](#)

[Career Opportunities](#)

[Other Canada-wide Opportunities](#)

[Click here](#) stay updated between newsletters by following us on Facebook and [click here](#) to follow us on Twitter. *Notre bulletin mensuel est maintenant disponible en français! [Veuillez cliquer ici pour vous abonner à la publication en français.](#)*

MEDIA RELEASE May 23th, 2017 - Margaret Environment Association

Environment Group Slams Premier McNeil on Coal Power, offer affordable solutions to reduce Coal power by 80% by 2020.

For decades the Margaree Environmental Association has been challenging government energy policies and proposing alternatives to the current practices. MEA has opposed the burning of fossil fuels to generate electricity, and promoted alternate energy; challenged the expansion of oil and gas exploration and development, and proposed the development of non-polluting industries; protested against the wholesale burning of Nova Scotia's forest resource in biomass plants in the false name of "renewable energy," and demonstrated the efficacy of commercial hydro-electric, wind, and solar installations. MEA has conducted its campaigns through public education, government lobbying, industry collaboration, litigation, NGO cooperation, and media releases. Out of these activities has emerged a vision for the future of Nova Scotia's energy regime, with systemic change that translates into a wide range of business and employment opportunities aimed at responsible development and the mitigation of climate change. Below is an outline of MEA's challenge to current practices, and its proposal for change:

Many Nova Scotians, like us, are extremely concerned about the Federal Provincial agreement to allow Nova Scotia to continue to burn coal rather than have a plan to shut down coal burning as soon as possible. The Harper and McNeil governments made this agreement (see below) in 2014/15, and recently the Trudeau government, faced with this agreement being in place, agreed to allow Nova Scotia to burn major amounts of coal for power beyond 2030.

Nova Scotia will soon be touted as Canada's only dirty coal fired electricity Province. Nova Scotians do not want to be the only Province in Canada burning coal for electricity. Imagine how unattractive Nova Scotia will look to outside businesses and people looking to move to Nova Scotia.

Major reductions in coal burning can take place in Nova Scotia by 2020; 5 of 7 coal plants can be shut down, by building more renewables (wind and solar) in Nova Scotia now, using power from Muskrat Falls and Hydro Quebec. At least 500MW of Quebec power is available and affordable (see below), and fits into current Federal programs to assist with needed basic infrastructure improvements, without price shocks to the consumer.

Premier McNeil falsely claims that Nova Scotians are paying high energy prices because of renewable energy projects. Renewable projects built to date (except the biomass projects) are based on long term 20-25 year fixed priced levelized contracts. (Levelized contracts are well known as a deal for consumers over the full contract period.) The media have

accepted this false claim.

Coal burning, not renewables, is why Nova Scotians pay high prices for electricity. There is likely nothing affordable about getting off coal later, and Premier McNeil's policy puts Nova Scotians at high risk of price shocks.

Premier McNeil has placed a moratorium on renewable energy projects. Renewable projects take years to plan and finance. The building of projects are coming to a halt in 2017, and new ones cannot be planned without opportunities for them to be built.

Nova Scotia is losing green jobs now, for the experienced tradespeople who have worked in this field. More than \$500 million of renewables construction in rural Nova Scotia is coming to an end.

Premier McNeil falsely claims Nova Scotians have already done enough. Nova Scotia's record is not as he states it. The 60MW of biomass power is not clean power and has increased greenhouse gas emissions. It should be removed from green energy calculations, as it skews these calculations, making Nova Scotia's claim of reducing emissions through green energy false. The biomass plant as of this year is only being used seasonally. The biomass plant has no fixed priced contract, it is expensive power and is not green power.

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.



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!