



Information Bulletin

August 10, 2009

MEIA Gold Charter Members



Silver Charter Member





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MEIA News

Speed Mentoring

Date: September 30, 2009
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Location: 1000 Waverly St., Wpg, MB

MEIA members introduce themselves to student chapter members and provide guidance on future employment. The following member companies have agreed to act as mentors to MEIA's student chapter members:

Manitoba Hydro
Cantest
Miller Environmental Corporation
Boeing
MTS Allstream
Manitoba Hotel Association

Water Workshops

October 7, 14, & 21, 2009
1000 Waverley Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Registration: 11:30 a.m.
Lunch: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Presentations: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

The MEIA will be hosting three half-day workshops in October 2009. The workshops will address the following issues:

Session #1 October 7, 2009 The Present State of Water Quality
The Status of Lake Winnipeg
Groundwater Regulations

Session #2 October 14, 2009 Drinking Water Treatment Technologies
State of Drinking Water
Available/Acceptable Technologies

Session #3 October 21, 2009 Wastewater Treatment Technologies
Natural Water Treatment
Technology Providers

Registration Fees:

Members:	\$ 75 per session (plus GST)
Prospective Members	\$125 per session (plus GST)
Student Members	\$ 25 per session (plus GST)
Prospective Student Members	\$ 50 per session (plus GST)

Registration fee includes lunch.

For further details and registration, contact the MEIA staff at 783-7090

To view sponsorship opportunities, click [here](#)

Emerging Issues

Date: Thursday, November 26, 2009

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: Fort Garry Hotel, 222 Garry St. , Wpg., MB

Registration Fees:

Early Bird

Members: \$200 (plus gst) Prospective Members: \$275 (plus gst)

After November 1, 2009

Members: \$250 (plus gst) Prospective Members: \$325 (plus gst)

Student Members: \$25 (plus gst) Prospective Student Members: \$60 (plus gst)

For sponsorship opportunities, click [here!](#)

Contact the MEIA staff at 783-7090 for further details and for registration.

Remediation and Prevention

The MEIA Remediation and Prevention conference will be held on Thursday, February 25, 2010 at the Victoria Inn.

Mark your calendars!

General News

Local Interest

Plugged Into Electric Vehicles

Manitoba ideal for hybrids, says minister who drives one

August 10, 2009

Manitoba's cheap hydroelectric power and plug-in outlets in most parking stalls put the province at the front of electric and hybrid vehicle research, says Science and Technology Minister Jim Rondeau.

Rondeau said the province, along with researchers from Manitoba Hydro and the University of Manitoba, are examining how the increased use of electric and hybrid vehicles will affect the province's power supply.

More importantly, discussions also focus on who will pay to charge up an electric vehicle, as they can plug into any outlet.

"The electric car offers a huge opportunity," Rondeau said. "This isn't a thing for Manitoba; it's a thing for the world, because the policies we're deciding on the grid and on the billing will set the base.

"And with our price of electricity, you couldn't pick a better place to try the electric car."

Provincial officials, including Rondeau and Finance Minister Greg Selinger, are currently test-driving four plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEV) specially outfitted by researchers at the U of M. By December, that number will climb to nine. The cars are older-model Toyota Priuses that have been converted at about \$115,000 each.

Rondeau said the plan is for decision-makers to get used to driving a PHEV so that when they are introduced on the mass car market over the next few years, government is ready to meet the demand they will impose on the power supply or grid. It's estimated up to 200,000 vehicles on Manitoba's roads could be some form of electric vehicle, about one-third of the total vehicles registered. Right now, 2,175 hybrid vehicles are registered in Manitoba, according to Manitoba Public Insurance.

Rondeau said that in the past few months he's had a PHEV -- Selinger gets it next -- it changed his driving habits.

"I would find myself saying, 'OK, how can I drive not using any fuel?'" Rondeau said. "Being frugal, I would actually try trips that you'd use virtually no fuel and you'd work on not using any fuel because electricity is cheaper."

The challenge now is getting other Manitobans to think the same way, which shouldn't be difficult, as PHEV technology is expected to become more affordable and widespread. Currently, plug-in hybrids are not available commercially.

"On this vehicle, we think you can drive it at 30 per cent of the cost of a conventional vehicle."

To date, the province has paid nearly \$2.25 million in hybrid vehicle incentive rebates since its program kicked off in 2006, and the number of applicants was nearly six times higher last year than when the program started. The rebate is worth roughly \$2,000 each for Manitobans who buy or sign up for a long-term lease on any new hybrid electric vehicle. Rondeau said a Manitoba company is developing the use of wireless technology to prevent charging electric car batteries if peak hydro usage

has been reached. The technology will track your battery's usage so you pay to charge it -- the technology recognizes it's your battery being charged, even when you're plugged in at work or at a public stall.

"You can't park at your neighbour's (so) they pay your electric bill," Rondeau said. What's being discussed at the policy development level is the possibility of an electric-car owner selling power back to Hydro during an emergency.

"You might, as a hypothetical situation, charge your car up at four cents in the middle of the night. Then, what happens the next morning, there's a power failure or a higher peak than normal. Hydro might pay eight cents and take a little bit of power from your car and later put it back in."

The result is the electric car owner becomes an integral part of the "smart grid" -- the creation, storage and use of power without wastage.

"If we can create a smart grid, you can be basically driving your car for free by charging it at night and selling into the grid in the day," he said.

By: Bruce Owen

What's a plug-in electric vehicle?

Plug-in electric vehicles use electricity to move their wheels. Some, or all, of that electricity comes from the power grid -- from plugging it in.

How do they work?

Plug-in electric vehicles use a combination of grid electricity, regenerative energy from braking and power from another on-board source such as an internal combustion engine or fuel cell.

Why do we need them?

What plug-in electric vehicles all have in common is the ability to use electricity from the grid to displace the petroleum used for transportation. Plug-in vehicles are also an important part of a climate-change strategy. Displacing petroleum with electricity reduces emissions from transportation.

What are we doing to bring them into the market?

The private and public sectors are working to accelerate the commercialization of plug-in options throughout the North American transportation sector. Manitoba is uniquely positioned because of its reliable hydroelectric power and because of its climate -- many homes, businesses and public parking stalls already have outlets to plug in a vehicle. Phoenix, Ariz., does not.

Advantages of plug-in vehicles:

Reduced fuel consumption and tailpipe emissions
Low cost and ease of plugging in to charge battery.

Challenges:

Higher initial cost

Cost and complexity of two powertrains

Short battery life before recharging

What risk do electric vehicles pose to the power supply? What happens if too many cars are recharged at the same time?

-- More information: Electric Drive Transportation Association, www.electricdrive.org

Source: www.winnipegfreepress.com

Campaign to Teach Green Motoring

Local drive will focus on no-idling message

August 6, 2009

Using eatery drive-thrus will be discouraged in an upcoming anti-idling campaign. Manitobans will soon be encouraged to drive greener to help the environment and save some green in their wallets.

This fall, three different environmental groups in the province will be telling Manitobans to use more fuel-efficient driving methods and do proper vehicle maintenance. They are the Manitoba Eco-Network, Resource Conservation Manitoba, and the Centre of Sustainable Transportation.

The campaign, to be called ecoDriver Manitoba, is the result of a grant from the federal government's ecoENERGY Personal Vehicles program and a grant from the provincial government.

Curt Hull of the Manitoba Eco-Network said Wednesday his group's share of the program is to promote an anti-idling campaign.

"We want to encourage people to turn off their engines, not in traffic, but at a train crossing, when picking kids up at school -- and we don't want people to go through drive-thrus," Hull said.

"It is not harmful to your engine to turn it off and then turn it on again. We were always told in the past it takes more gas to start the engine again, but that was before fuel-injected engines."

Hull said the practice helps the environment and saves money because 10 seconds of idling uses more gas than restarting an engine.

The federal government announced this week it contributed \$970,000 to nine organizations across Canada including the New Brunswick Lung Association's Simple Driver Stewardship program, the Township of Langley, B.C.'s Anti-Idling campaign, and Clean Nova Scotia's DriveWiser program.

Randall McQuaker of Resource Conservation Manitoba said with the almost \$150,000 it's getting, they've hired people to do several things, including developing a website, researching fuel-efficient vehicles, talking to the media and public and organizing workshops and presentations.

"We're changing driver behaviour," McQuaker said.

"We're encouraging green driving habits, which will save people money. It's also good for the environment.

"This is the first year this has been done in Manitoba. On Labour Day we'll let people know about our website."

By: Kevin Rollason

Source: www.winnipegfreepress.com

New East Selkirk Water, Waste Plan Still Rankles

August 6, 2009

A revised plan for a multimillion-dollar water and sewer project in East Selkirk is causing as much controversy as the previous version.

The \$13.1-million plan was to be tabled by the Rural Municipality of St. Clements at Tuesday night's informational meeting and public hearing at the East Selkirk Recreation Centre. It calls for nearly \$3.5 million of the total to be borrowed and paid for by all property owners in the municipality, even though only 305 homes and undeveloped properties in East Selkirk would be able to connect to the new service.

That amounts to an additional \$48 annually per \$100,000 of assessed value starting in 2011, which many property owners are unwilling to absorb.

"The council has chosen to make a levy that requires a certain payment from farmers, cottagers and residents outside the improvement area," said Herb Dubowits of the St. Clements Ratepayers Association.

"It's the principle. They're trying to tax someone else for something we don't benefit from."

The proposed cost to property owners inside the new service area is \$10,868 plus a \$2,553 charge to connect to the system.

There is agreement on most sides that the project is necessary, given that St. Clements has been under a boil-water advisory since 2001 -- when E. coli contamination was discovered in East Selkirk's main aquifer by the Manitoba Office of Drinking Water. The provincial government has made it clear the ban won't be lifted until the water system is improved.

The municipal board could approve the new plan, or order more hearings and revisions.

Source: www.winnipegfreepress.com

Should Engineer, Geoscientist Note a Client's 'Greenwashing'?

August 10, 2009

Greenwashing: Disinformation disseminated by an organization so as to present an environmentally responsible public image. The term "greenwashing" has been in the Oxford English Dictionary for about a decade now. Are there any implications here for a professional engineer or geoscientist working for a given organization?

What is the professional's responsibility with regard to greenwashing? Does our mandate include the demystification of advertising campaigns and corporate promotional strategies? Or do we simply rely on "buyer beware" and pass the responsibility for due diligence and information gathering to our clients?

It is not the purpose of this article to comment on products in the marketplace that make claims regarding ecological soundness or greenness. However, recent discussions in our office have led to this question:

If we are brought into a project for our expertise on a very specific part of the design, are we obliged to comment on aspects outside of our contract if we see issues that we know will affect the overall performance of the finished product?

As an example, we were engaged in a structural inspection of a residence recently. A home inspector was not satisfied that the building was structurally sound, so he had the prospective owner (who had made an offer to purchase conditional on an inspection) contact us to inspect the foundation of the house. Upon inspection, the building proved to be in average structural condition for its age and construction style. It was not in imminent danger of collapse, but some upgrades could have been made. However, the moisture levels in the basement were excessive, there was evidence of mould and mildew and recent repairs were showing drainage and damp-proofing problems that needed to be addressed.

The prospective owner, realtor and home inspector were present at the time of our site visit. We presented several options for remedying the moisture issues, which in our opinion would have positive impacts on the structure. The discussion shifted away from the structural condition to the healthiness of the home. If a person had respiratory difficulties, for instance, would they be able to live here comfortably?

As professionals, our first responsibility is the safety of the general public. Does this responsibility give us permission to tell our clients what to do or how to live? Within our scope of practice, these are the sorts of questions that enter into discussions of design philosophy. A client wishing to make the greenest choices will have their decision limited by economy, timelines, product availability, expertise within the building community and the quality of the information available about a given product or process.

We are not presenting any hard and fast answers here, just offering some food for thought. If you are interested in continuing this discussion, come and join us at the fourth Northern Climates Alternative Buildings Design Day at the University of Manitoba's Alternative Village, Saturday, Sept. 19. Visit www.umanitoba.ca/engineering/alternative_village

By: Tim Krahn and Kris J. Dick

Tim Krahn, P. Eng., is engineering manager of Building Alternatives Inc. and Kris J. Dick, P. Eng., is associate professor of biosystems engineering at the University of Manitoba.

The Learning Curve is an occasional column written by local academics who are experts in their field. It is open to any educator from Winnipeg's post-secondary institutions. Send 600-word submissions and a mini bio to thelearningcurve@freepress.mb.ca

New Suburbs Go Green Lite

In most, only 5% merit Power Smart's gold or silver mark

July 13, 2009-08-10

Only a fraction of the new homes in the government-owned half of Waverley West meet Manitoba Hydro's highest standard for energy efficiency.

Home builders say that's because the Power Smart program is too rigid to really encourage greener homes, while environmentalists say tough, green building standards must be mandatory to really work.

Of the 150 homes built or under construction in Waverley West, just 20 meet Manitoba Hydro's Power Smart silver or gold standard. That's 13 per cent that earned the highest rating set out by the Doer government's signature climate-change program.

"It's disappointing," said Marten Duhoux, a local architect and chairman of Manitoba's Green Building Council. "That's a missed opportunity."

But Waverley West still boasts more Power Smart homes than most new suburbs, where only about five per cent of houses qualify for the gold or silver designation.

Home builders say Power Smart is too restrictive and needs to be reviewed to include a bigger menu of green options.

"If the Power Smart brand got someone to think, 'I'm gonna go to the website and learn about R-24 insulation and make sure my home is as energy-efficient as it can be,' then it still did its job, whether you've got the designation or not," said Manitoba Home Builders' Association president Mike Moore.

Buyers might also not bother to get the energy audit and fill out the paperwork proving their home is Power Smart, or they may have missed one small element on the must-have list.

Moore noted that Manitoba's new homes have topped the list for the most energy-efficient designs in Canada for two years running, as reported by the Canadian Energy Efficiency Alliance.

Manitoba Hydro says the current standards were originally developed in consultation with home builders who could have resolved their concerns at the outset.

But there could be a chance to rethink Power Smart.

A review of the program will be triggered by changes coming to the building code next year that are meant to make all new homes more energy- and water-efficient.

As the code gets tougher, the Power Smart incentives to build beyond the code will need to get tougher, too.

But critics, including one of the home builders in Waverley West, say voluntary incentive programs don't really make a dent in the number of leaky, poorly insulated homes that contribute to climate change.

They say tough, mandatory standards need to be put in place for water and energy efficiency, with the extra cost built into the base price of the home.

"People say to themselves, 'If I can only get hardwood floors or Power Smart, what should I pick?' " said Liam Milne, sales and marketing director for Hearth Homes. "They always pick hardwood or granite countertops over Power Smart... If it's not easy, no one does it."

Milne also agreed that Power Smart isn't flexible enough to really encourage green building.

A homeowner might invest in a greywater recycling system but not quite meet the Power Smart standard for airtightness. That's still a very green home, but it wouldn't get the Power Smart stamp.

Duhoux and other local architects and environmentalists said the Doer government missed a chance to turn Waverley West into a model of really innovative green building. The Power Smart gold rating should be the bare minimum requirement for all new homes, especially since many European countries and American states such as California have set targets or passed legislation mandating that new buildings be "net zero emitters."

That means they produce as much energy from geothermal heat pumps, solar panels and the like as the home consumes.

"It's on the tail end of the way development is being done elsewhere," said Kristina Hunter, an instructor in the University of Manitoba's environment and geography department. "The trend is in the other direction to net zero. Some of the developments other cities are doing are just astounding...The data shows that you don't see results when it's voluntary. You have to mandate it."

Dwayne Rawniak, Manitoba Housing and Rehabilitation Corp.'s land development director, said the Doer government didn't mandate Power Smart in Waverley West because it's a voluntary consumer incentive program, not a legal requirement like the building code.

Builders are trying to promote it by building Power Smart show homes, though, and Waverley West has tons of other green elements, such as 25 per cent natural open

space, 25 acres of mature forest, linear parks and streets designed to maximize passive solar energy.

Source: www.winnipegfreepress.com

National Interest

Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment in Canada

CCME has released Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment in Canada: Principles and Guidance, now available from the CCME website. Please click on the following link for details:

http://www.ccme.ca/ourwork/environment.html?category_id=135

Consultation on Scientific Criteria Document for CWQG for the Protection of Aquatic Life –Glyphosate

A draft scientific criteria document for Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Aquatic Life - Glyphosate is available for public review and comment until September 11, 2009. The scientific criteria document includes English and French summaries. Please see the following

link for details: http://www.ccme.ca/ourwork/water.html?category_id=101

Assessment of Regulatory Quantification and Reporting Requirements for Air Emissions from Industrial Facilities

Assessment of Regulatory Quantification and Reporting Requirements for Air Emissions from Industrial Facilities is now available from the CCME website.

CCME's Air Management Committee has released a consultant's report that characterizes and assesses the quantification and reporting requirements for air

emissions from industrial facilities in jurisdictions across Canada as well as leading international jurisdictions. The report can be found at <http://www.ccme.ca/ourwork/air.html>.

Minister Prentice Announces Tough New National Regulations to Protect Canada's Water Resources

SAINT JOHN, N.B. : August 6, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of the Environment, today announced new regulations for managing municipal wastewater. The proposed regulations will set national performance standards, timelines and monitoring and reporting requirements, and are expected to be published in the Canada Gazette, Part I, in December 2009.

The Minister made the announcement at a speech delivered to the Saint John Board of Trade, where he reaffirmed the Government's strong commitment to ensuring that Canada's precious water resources are preserved and protected now and in the future.

"This Government is taking real action to ensure that all Canadians have access to clean and safe water," said Minister Prentice. "The proposed regulations will ensure that, across the country, the release of wastewater effluents does not pose unacceptable risks to human and environmental health and fishery resources."

The new regulations deliver on the Government's commitment to implementing the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment Municipal Wastewater Strategy. They will be developed under the Fisheries Act for more than 4,000 wastewater treatment facilities.

"We recognize the key role that provinces, territories and municipalities play in the management of the wastewater sector and we are working in partnership with these jurisdictions and other stakeholders through the [Canadian Council of Ministers of Environment](#) to improve wastewater effluent quality," said Minister Prentice.

Minister Prentice outlined the Government's commitments to protecting Canada's water resources. "We have put in place a strong, comprehensive approach to ensure that our water resources are used wisely, both economically and ecologically.

Through this approach, we are making investments in regulating and enforcing laws, monitoring, science, and cleaning up of problem areas, as well as building partnerships to protect our fresh water."

Under the Action Plan for Clean Water, the Government of Canada committed \$96 million to restore Lake Winnipeg, Lake Simcoe and several areas of concern in the Great Lakes. The Action Plan complements a number of other initiatives, such as the St. Lawrence Plan, which has allowed the Government to invest \$323 million over the past 20 years on priorities such as water conservation and protection.

Further commitments to protect Canada's water resources include:
Accelerating First Nations' infrastructure projects, focusing on schools and water through \$515 million under Canada's Economic Action Plan;
Investing in infrastructure through the \$33-billion Building Canada Fund to help municipalities and First Nations communities across Canada upgrade their wastewater treatment facilities;
Regulating specific industries like metal mines and pulp and paper to reduce the toxicity of their effluents; and
Investing \$2.5 million over five years to support the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) Global Environment Monitoring System GEMS/Water.

"As stewards of the third largest supply of freshwater in the world, it is essential that we preserve and protect our major watersheds for future generations," said Minister Prentice. "Through this comprehensive approach on water, this Government is taking action to help Canadians become better stewards of our precious water resources."

For more information, please visit
<http://www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=9C4881EA-1> and
www.science.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=en&n=70FE597E-1

Related Documents:

[Making Water Stewardship A Top Priority: The Government of Canada's Comprehensive Approach on Water](#)

[Backgrounder 2009-08-06]

[Notes for an Address by the Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., Q.C., M.P., Minister of the Environment on Managing Municipal Wastewater.](#)

[Speech 2009-08-06]

Source: www.ec.gc.ca

Government of Canada Completes Assessments for an Additional 18 Substances Included in the Chemicals Management Plan

OTTAWA, Ont.: July 31, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, Canada's Environment Minister, and the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health, today announced the release of the final screening assessments for 18 substances assessed in Batch 4 of the Chemicals Management Plan.

"With the release of these final screening assessments for Batch 4, we have taken another important step towards protecting the health and environment of Canadians," said Minister Prentice. "We will continue to work with all stakeholders so that these chemicals are managed safely and responsibly."

"After a thorough review Health Canada has concluded that two of the substances in Batch 4 may pose a risk to human health," said Minister Aglukkaq. "We are recommending new action so that Canadians' exposure to these substances remains very low."

Of the 18 substances assessed in Batch 4, one substance poses a risk to the environment (BNST) and is recommended for virtual elimination. Two substances pose a risk to human health (dimethyl sulfate and diethyl sulfate). The Ministers of Environment and Health have recommended all three substances be added to Schedule 1 of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA), 1999. BNST is used as an antioxidant in automotive oils as well as in commercial and industrial lubricants.

Dimethyl sulfate is used in Canada in the manufacture of substances which are then used in pharmaceuticals. It is also used in the production of dyes, fragrances and water/sewage flocculants. Diethyl sulfate is used mainly in Canada by the tissue paper industry as a softener. It may also be used to make products used in the manufacture of dyes, fragrances, agricultural chemicals, pharmaceuticals and textiles.

Notices containing summaries of the final screening assessment reports were published in Canada Gazette, Part I on July 31, 2009. The complete final screening assessments as well as proposed risk management approaches for Batch 4 substances can be found on the Chemicals Management Plan website: http://www.chemicalsubstanceschimiques.gc.ca/interest-interet/index_e.html#4.

The Government's screening assessments are final, however stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments on the recommended risk management approaches until September 29, 2009.

Related Documents:

[Batch 4 of the Chemicals Management Plan](#)

[Backgrounder 2009-07-31]

Source: www.ec.gc.ca

Government of Canada Strengthens Environmental Enforcement Through Tougher Rules and More Officers

OTTAWA: July 30, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of the Environment, today congratulated 43 new enforcement officers who have completed Environment Canada's Basic Enforcement Training and will soon be deployed across the country.

"With 43 more enforcement officers added to a strong team across the country, we can take aggressive action to protect the environment from those who would poach, plunder or pollute our natural heritage. These on-the-ground officers will increase the number of targeted inspections, improve compliance with environmental legislation and serve as deterrent by enhancing the visibility of enforcement operations," said Minister Prentice.

The officers were hired and trained as a result of commitments under Budgets 2007 and 2008, totalling \$22 million over two years to increase the number of on-the-ground enforcement officers, and an additional \$21 million over two years to increase the effectiveness of our environmental enforcement officers with better forensics laboratory support, data collection and analysis.

"Taken together, these measures provide new and existing enforcement officers with the tools they need to ensure compliance by industry and individuals with Canada's environmental laws," said Minister Prentice.

Environment Canada's enforcement personnel conduct inspections and investigate potential offences under a number of Acts and Regulations including the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999; the Species at Risk Act; the pollution provisions of the Fisheries Act; the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994; and the Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act. In addition to bolstering the ranks of enforcement officers, the Government of Canada's environmental enforcement strategy includes the introduction of Bill C-16 (the Environmental Enforcement Act) which received Royal Assent in June 2009.

The new Bill strengthens existing environmental laws by establishing minimum fines, increasing maximum fines, and directing fines to environmental restoration projects.

Source: www.ec.gc.ca

ECO Canada Consults Environmental Employers on the Impact of the Recession

Calgary: June 16, 2009

Last week ECO Canada polled responses asking environmental stakeholders how the economic downturn is affecting recruitment and retention patterns.

Responses revealed that, despite the poor economic conditions, several companies are experiencing little change in recruitment and employee-initiated turnover. The poll also revealed that some environmental organizations are actually hiring but only where absolutely necessary.

The following responses give insight into where environmental organizations stand in today's economy.

"As we are a global company, we are able to weather the downturn here in Canada by focusing on other areas. We are also using the time to offer development to all staff members." Cathy Rayburn- Human Resource Generalist, CG Industrial Specialties Ltd

"More qualified candidates are available; this time last year there wasn't any skilled labour to be found..." Cathy Glasser - Health and Safety Training Coordinator, Westeel Storage Solutions

"As much as market conditions have slowed some development work, current staffing levels are considered barely adequate to keep up, certainly in relation to essential energy infrastructure projects." Christine Cinnamon - Environmental Manager, CCEP, TransCanada Pipelines Ltd.

"Questor is somewhat insulated from the economic downturn because climate change concerns continue to be a key issue. Stronger environmental regulation has served to maintain, and even increase, demand for our technology and products. On that basis we are adding resources where a perceived permanent need exists and expect to benefit from the larger candidate pool available. For a small but growing company, the government incentives to assist with new hires are also helpful." Diane Koenig – Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Secretary, Questor Technology Inc.

Flash Poll Results

1. As compared to the same period in previous years, how has the economic downturn affected your employee retention in the past 6 months?

Employee-initiated turnover is significantly lower 9.8%

Employee-initiated turnover is slightly lower 11.7%

Employee-initiated turnover is at our normal rate 74.5%

Employee-initiated turnover is higher 1.9%

2. As compared to the same period in previous years, how has the economic downturn affected your employee recruitment in the past 6 months?

Employee recruitment is significantly lower 17.6%

Employee recruitment is slightly lower 11.7%

Employee recruitment is at our normal rate 56.8%

Employee recruitment is higher 11.7%

3. What will your organization's hiring frequency be for the next 6 months?

Frozen - No intention of hiring 19.6%

Cautious - Hire where absolutely necessary 43.1%

Consistent - Hire at a similar rate as previous years over the same period 27.4%

Increasing - Hire at potentially higher than previous years over the same period 7.8%

About ECO Canada:

ECO Canada develops programs that help individuals build meaningful environmental careers, provides employers with resources to find and keep the best environmental practitioners, and informs educators and governments of employment trends to ensure the ongoing prosperity of this growing sector. For more information please visit: www.eco.ca

Business and Career Opportunities

Local

Administrative Assistant

The Manitoba Chapter, Canada Green Building Council is looking for a part-time Administrative Assistant.

Responsibilities include:

- Office Management
- Executive Support

- Event Coordination

For more information, please click [here](#), or contact:
Christine Paquette
Executive Director
Manitoba Chapter, Canada Green Building Council
ed.manitobachapter@mts.net
943-1023

Closing date: August 19, 2009 4:00 p.m.

Manitoba Business Mission to Wisconsin - October 2009

I am inviting you to join a trade mission to Madison and Milwaukee, Wisconsin from October 13 – 16, 2009.

As part of the mission, you will participate in a networking reception at the Governor's residence on October 14th in Madison and a Manitoba delegation breakfast with Premier Doer. You can also take advantage of the opportunity for individual business programs in both cities.

Manitoba Trade and Investment will facilitate your individual business program as well as on the ground transportation to help access the events. If you are interested in participating in this mission, please contact Mr. Brad Havixbeck at (204) 945-2397 or e-mail: brad.havixbeck@gov.mb.ca.

I hope to see you on this mission.

Yours truly
Diane Gray

Biomass Study

Manitoba Hydro has commissioned DLF Consulting to conduct a biomass study with the goal of determining the contribution biomass can make as a heating fuel for small and mid-scale customers in Manitoba. This study will determine the amount of thermal energy which can be economically and sustainably derived through the conversion of biomass (from forest, crop and other sources) to heat for institutional, community and residential applications in Manitoba.

You are being contacted as part of this study to determine your involvement in the development or sale of any of the three following topics:

1. Biomass feedstock: crop, water or forestry derived. Is your business involved in the planting/harvesting of fuel crops, or the processing of these (or their byproducts) into biomass feedstock (pellets, pucks, bales)? Please provide details.
2. Biomass combustion/gasification equipment: Is your business involved in the development or manufacture of technologies which convert biomass feedstocks into thermal energy? Please provide details.
3. District heating: Is your business involved in the development or installation of district heating systems using biomass feedstocks? Please provide details.

Please send your response to Daniel Lepp Friesen, owner of DLF Consulting, Management and Energy Solutions at Daniel@dlfconsulting.ca.

www.dlfconsulting.ca

Manitoba Career Week

The MEIA is a sector council of the Alliance of Manitoba Sector Councils. If your company is a member of the MEIA, we would be happy to include information on your company at the MEIA booth which will be set up at the following events.

The Alliance of Manitoba Sector Councils (AMSC), Community Outreach Steering Committee has been very busy planning a number of extraordinary events to celebrate Manitoba Career Week (November 1-7, 2009). As champions of career and workforce development in Manitoba we have this exceptional opportunity to showcase our organizations and the sector/industry that we represent. The following is a list of events that will be taking place at 1000 Waverley:

Take Our Kids to Work Day

The Alliance of Manitoba Sector Councils will hold an event at 1000 Waverley Street to celebrate Take Our Kids to Work Day 2009. The event will include activities such as AMSC's Industry Awareness Game, WEST games and activities, Career Information Booths, Career Exploration on the web (career cruising, job futures, etc). All parents are invited to drop-in with their grade 9 students and learn about the 1,000's of exciting careers in Manitoba.

Timeline: November 4, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Career Information and Awareness Evening

In celebration of Manitoba Career Week, the Alliance of Manitoba Sector Councils will host an evening event filled with information booths, workshops and presentations geared toward Manitoba citizens who are going through a transition, looking for second careers, re-entering the workforce, new to Manitoba, etc. The evening workshops will include:

- PLAR Information
- Skills Portfolio Development
- Resuming Writing
- Job Searching
- Preparing for Interviews
- Volunteering
- And many, more

Timeline: November 5, 2009 from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Opening Doors Parent Expo

An annual event hosted by the Alliance of Manitoba Sector Councils and the 17 sectors that they represent. This all day come-and-go event provides parents and caregivers with the tools and resources they need to guide their children in their career decision making. The event will include information booths, hands-on demonstrations and presentations and much, much more.

Timeline: Saturday, November 7, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

For more information, or to provide information about your company, please contact the MEIA office at 783-7090, or admin@meia.mb.ca

2009 Eastern Manitoba Career Symposium

October 21, 2009
Beausejour, Manitoba

The 2009 Eastern Manitoba Career Symposium will take place on October 21st, 2009 at the Brokenhead River Recreational Complex in Beausejour, Manitoba. This

dynamic event will showcase careers, employment opportunities, and educational options and is targeted not only at students and their parents, but also to recent graduates as well as adults looking for a career change, re-entering the workforce, or thinking about returning to school. This event will provide your organization or company with an opportunity to promote itself to individuals who are exploring their career and educational options, or to assist in your recruitment efforts.

This event will include interactive booths and displays, thought provoking presentations, and a unique "Trades Showcase". As an exhibitor you will have a chance to network with leading professionals from various industry sectors and educational facilities. This event will provide your organization with an opportunity to expand its market potential within the Province of Manitoba, and beyond the city centered scope.

Attached is the Exhibitor Registration Form. Booths measure 10' x 10' with a draped 8' high back and 3' high sides. Each booth will include a draped table and two chairs. Wireless internet will be available for no additional charge and 24-hour on-site security will be provided by a professional security company.

Last year's successful Eastern Manitoba Career Symposium attracted close to 1,800 participants. We will be increasing our marketing efforts to attract even more people to the event.

To book your exhibit space, please complete and return the attached registration form by August 10, 2009. We encourage you to register early, space is limited!

For more information, click [here](#)

National

Clean Tech Funding Available

If you have a new, innovative technology that helps address climate change or promotes clean water, land or air, then Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC) wants to hear from you.

SDTC's SD Tech Fund™ is accepting Statements of Interest from September 2 to October 21, 2009

The SD Tech Fund™ invests in late-stage development and pre-commercial demonstration of clean technologies by Canadian companies. For more information please visit: <http://www.sdtc.ca/en/SOLinfo.htm>

CCME - Recommendations on the Communication of Risks Associated with Biosolids

Project 476-2010 Project Description: Contractor will develop recommendations on how best to communicate the benefits, risks, and uncertainties related to land application of biosolids. The recommendations should be based on known or perceived risks, and work done on the subject by agencies such as the Water Environment Research Foundation. The recommendations will provide guidance on communicating to different target audiences, including the public, stakeholder groups, and municipal governments; include messaging around odours, water or soil contamination, emerging contaminants, emergency response and crisis management; and include strategies for addressing uncertainty.

Closing Date/Time: Thursday, August 27, 2009, 12:00 p.m. CDT.

Project Status: Open for competition
[Request for Proposals 476-2010](#)
August 2009 (42 KB) (pdf)

Consultation on the OECD Renewable Energy and Water Projects Sector Understanding

The Government of Canada invites interested stakeholders to participate in a consultation process relating to the possible expansion of the list of eligible sectors under the Sector Understanding on Export Credits for Renewable Energies and Water Projects (REWSU). The REWSU is an Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) agreement that establishes the most generous export credit terms and conditions that export credit agencies, including Export Development Canada (EDC), may apply when providing officially supported export credits related to the financing of new or the modernization of existing renewable energies and water projects. This review, scheduled to conclude at the end of 2009, will consider the possible expansion of the scope of the REWSU to incorporate

technologies related to climate change, including enhanced energy efficiency and low-carbon projects.

More information can be found at:

<http://www.international.gc.ca/consultations/active/index.aspx?lang=eng#oecd2>

Please send expressions of interest in participating in the consultation process as soon as possible and no later than August 25, 2009

CCME - Climate Change Adaptation – Methods to Prioritize Areas and to Evaluate Water Monitoring Networks.

CCME is now accepting proposals for the following contract opportunity:

Project 473-2010 – Climate Change Adaptation - Methods to Prioritize Areas and to Evaluate Water Monitoring Networks. Proposals will be accepted until August 20, 2009, 12:00 p.m. CDT. Please click on the following link for details:

<http://www.ccme.ca/contracts/index.html>

CCME - Report on the Suitability of Various Metrics for Ambient PM and Ozone Standards in Canada

CCME is now accepting proposals for the following contract opportunity:

Project 468-2010 – Report on the suitability of various metrics for ambient PM and ozone standards in Canada. Proposals will be accepted until Friday August 14, 2009, 12:00 Noon CDT. Please click on the following link for details:

<http://www.ccme.ca/contracts/index.html>

CCME - Development of a Protocol for the Development of Soil Vapour Guidelines for Volatile Substances

CCME is now accepting proposals for the following contract opportunity:

Project 475-2010 – Development of a protocol for the development of soil vapour guidelines for volatile substances. Proposals will be accepted until August 17, 2009, 12:00 noon CDT. Please click on the following link for details:

<http://www.ccme.ca/contracts/index.html>

Upcoming Conferences/Events/Trade Show

Local

Connect USA Canada Economic Summit

September 14 – 15
Canad Inns Polo Park, Winnipeg

This year's summit will be September 14-15, 2009 in Winnipeg, MB

CONNECT USA/Canada Economic summit will build upon and leverage trade, business and research connections in Manitoba, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota. The summit will capture the benefits of the existing and new bi-national relationships emerging in the region. We will be sending further updates revealing a dynamic agenda as well as an exciting and relevant lineup of speakers.

At the Summit

service1 Participate in an environment that stimulates new and existing business, trade, and research networks.

service2 Encourage and support collaborative research initiatives among stakeholders.

service3 Better define the region and its asset and opportunity base to promote the story and more robust opportunities.

service4 Heighten awareness and potential to build stronger and deeper North/South regional linkages

service5 Identify and consolidate regional concerns and challenges to realize new solutions.

To register go to: www.connectusacanada.com

CanSIA Solar Hot Water System Installer Workshop

Tuesday September 22, 2009
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Manitoba Hydro is hosting the second CanSIA Solar Hot Water System Installer Workshop held in Manitoba on Tuesday September 22, 2009.

Manitoba Hydro has partnered with Natural Resources Canada to offer a \$1,200 rebate to homeowners who purchase and install a solar water heating system. Through this program customers are required to hire a Participating Contractor to install their Solar Hot Water System, this workshop is one of the steps required in becoming a Participating Contractor.

Details and the [registration form](#) are available on our website at:
http://www.hydro.mb.ca/your_business/customer_communications/energy_seminars_workshops.shtml

The Prairie Water Policy Symposium

September 22 – 23
Inn at the Forks, Winnipeg

From Cumulative Threats to Integrated Responses
Hosted by The International Institute for Sustainable Development

For more information go to www.iisd.org/natres/water/pwps.asp

National

Biomass Energy: Business beyond Mill Residue!

August 27 – 28, 2009
Vancouver, B.C.

August 27: Bioenergy Workshop, Sheraton Wall Centre, Vancouver

WORKSHOP AGENDA:

The Agenda and speakers are essentially set - [take a look!](#)

August 28: Community Bio-Heat Tour, Dockside Green, Victoria

Be one of the first to tour Dockside Green, one of only 16 communities on the planet named a "Climate Positive Development". It was environmentally designed from the ground up, including roof gardens, heat and hot water from waste wood using Canadian gasification technology by Nexterra, waste-water treatment, and more.

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

\$159 hotel room block ends August 13 - That's this Thursday!

For more information, click [here](#)

Oil & Gas Methane Reduction

Technology Transfer Workshop

September 14th and 15th, 2009

Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise
111 Lake Louise Drive
Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada T0L 1E0

The Methane to Markets Partnership will offer a Technology Transfer Workshop in beautiful Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada. The Methane to Markets Partnership would like to thank its co-hosts Natural Resources Canada and Environment Canada for their support.

Day one will include an oil and natural gas facility tour, which will highlight state-of-the-art, cost-effective methane emission reduction and energy efficiency efforts.

The workshop on day two will be based on peer-based exchanges of technical and economic information on current practices. Hear detailed and informative presentations you can use to conduct feasibility assessments of these practices and learn to use this information at your own facility!

A wide variety of topics relevant to all sectors of the industry will be discussed including:

US and Canadian climate and other environmental policy
Directed Inspection & Maintenance
Reduced emissions well completions
Using pipeline pump-down techniques

Registration, Agenda, and Further Information:

<http://www.methanetomarkets.org/events/2009/oilgas/oilgas-14sept09.htm>

Contact:

Methane to Markets Administrative Support Group asg@methanetomarkets.org

Climate Change: Legislation, Regulation & Emissions Reporting

September 21-22

Toronto

Climate Change has affected the way we live, and the way we do business.

The Canadian Standards Association, a not-for-profit membership-based association, is presenting a forum in downtown Toronto, Canada on September 21-22, 2009 for organizations who are interested in learning about the new trends in standards, legislation, policies, regulation and emissions reporting of Greenhouse Gases in Canada and the U.S.

Hear directly from government, industry and standards experts on the new direction for business planning, how to reduce and report emissions, and the tools you need to create an effective Greenhouse Gas Management Plan that will benefit your organization.

Join us and learn:

- . Reporting regulations: what you need to know . The Western Climate Initiative: how will your business be impacted?
- . US EPA Reporting rules: impacts on your procurement and cross border activities . Emission Reporting - The Climate Registry . Important updates on International Standards . Risk Assessment and New Operational Efficiencies . Carbon Markets and the Future Economy . How to take advantage of new opportunities through efficiencies . How to avoid green washing through credible and accepted environmental claims and declarations.

CSA will bring together an Expert Faculty with representation from Industry, Government, Financial and Legal Experts, and Standards Development to give you the information right from the source!

For the full brochure as well as to register, please go to:

https://learningcentre.csa.ca/lc_site/be.asp?gid=50016245&tid=50041499

Anna Milakowski

Canadian Standards Association
anna.milakowski@csa.ca
"CSA - Making Standards Work for People and Business"

Western Canadian Hazmat Symposium

HAZMAT: Before, During & After – The 3 Phases of Response

October 7 – 9, 2009
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

The Western Canadian Hazardous Materials Symposium 2009 is an unprecedented opportunity for emergency response personnel. The goal for this year's symposium is to provide the education and tools needed to protect the safety and wellbieng of responders and communities across North America.

For symposium inquiries contact 1-877-244-9500 or symposium@envirotec.ca

For more information visit www.canadahazmat.com

Coast Waste Management Association Conference

"Rebuilding from the Waste Up"

October 21 – 23, 2009
Westin Bear Mountain
Langford, B.C.

Additional information regarding this event may be found at: [Coast Waste Management Association](http://www.cwma.bc.ca)

On line registration is available now at <http://cwma.bc.ca/about/oconform.html> and sponsorship and tradeshow opportunities are available by contacting the CWMA office (250) 733 2213 or info@cwma.bc.ca

Climate Change –Measuring and Reducing Your Carbon Footprint in a Changing Regulatory Environment

November 9 - 10, 2009
Courtyard Marriott, Toronto Ontario

The impacts of climate change are inescapable. Businesses and organizations face the realities of new provincial, federal and North American regulations, enhanced reporting and verification requirements, and the need to demonstrate a renewed sense of corporate responsibility. In this rapidly-evolving environment, “Business as Usual” is no longer an option.

CSA Standards has assembled a panel of leading North American climate change professionals, including key representatives from the federal and provincial government, to guide you through two intensive days designed to foster understanding of the changing regulatory and reporting requirements, as well as how to position YOUR business to become carbon neutral while capitalizing on the opportunities this new environment will inevitably create.

Climate Change WILL impact your business; join us to gain the tools and learn the strategies that will allow you to prosper within this new reality.

Download the brochure for a full list of topics and speakers!

Register TODAY for the Early Bird price, until September 25th! MEIA Members will receive a 10% discount.

Note: Quote "Climate Change" at hotel booking for a preferred rate until October 5th
Duration: 2 days



[Download PDF Brochure](#) for a full course information

GLOBE 2010: Conference Outline Now Available

International Conference and Trade Fair on Business and the Environment

March 24-26, 2010
Vancouver, Canada

Conference Themes:
Corporate Sustainability Toolkit
Climate Change + Carbon Management

Energy of the Future
Financing the Green Economy
The Urban Infrastructure Revolution
Water: Potential Impacts and Issues for Business
Clean(er) Technology: Changing the World of Business

For preliminary conference outline and event information, visit www.globe2010.com.

International

2009 North American Biochar Conference

World Climate Conference

August 31 – September 4, 2009
Geneva

The preparations for the World Climate Conference WCC-3, taking place in Geneva 31 August - 4 September 2009, are moving quickly. To stay updated, we would welcome you to the WCC-3 Mailing List. To receive our newsletter, please subscribe through wcc3@wmo.int. You can receive regular updates on the latest developments of the Conference. Should you have any questions or require more information, please do not hesitate to contact us at wcc3@wmo.int or visit our website at www.wmo.int/wcc3.

International Mine Water Conference

Pretoria, South Africa
19 to 23 October 2009

For more information go to:

<http://www.wisa.org.za/minewater2009.htm>

Adaptation to Climate Change: The Role of Ecosystem Services

November 9 – 13
Costa Rica

The upcoming International course “Adaptation to climate change: the role of ecosystem services” which will be held at CATIE (www.catie.ac.cr <<http://www.catie.ac.cr/>>), Costa Rica, from November 9 to November 13, 2009, and will be hosted by CATIE’s Climate Change Program.

The main objectives of the course are: i) to review the state the art in the different aspects of the design of adaptation strategies to climate change, ii) to share experiences from the Latin American region and iii) to build up the basis for a research network on the role of ecosystem services for adaptation to climate change. The course is organized in different lectures plus general presentations by invited speakers.

The course topics are organized in 6 areas that will be linked together into the framework of developing adaptation strategies for climate change. Each topic will have lectures on theoretical aspects and will be analyzed with a case study from the region. We have designed this combination will frame activities in the Latin American region within the latest approaches and research of each field.

Course topics:

1. Introduction to adaptation and the role of ecosystem services
2. Vulnerability of ecosystems to climate change
3. Vulnerability of society to climate change
4. Policies and climate change adaptation
5. Financial mechanisms, and communication for adaptation to climate change
6. Public and private initiatives for adaptation to climate change

The course is primarily addressed for researchers, but it is also addressed for people working outside academic institutions willing to acquire knowledge useful for implementing practical management of ecosystem services for adaptation to climate change.

The course welcomes abstract presentations. Selected participants will have the opportunity to present their research work during the course. Authors are requested to submit an abstract (maximum 500 words). Submissions should be sent by e-mail to angela@catie.ac.cr until July 31th 2009.

ÖKOINDUSTRIA - Environmental expo in Hungary

Budapest
(November 18-20, 2009)

Canadian Companies are welcome to attend an international environmental expo in Hungary. The professional organizer is the Association of Environmental Enterprises (www.kszgysz.hu) and the patron of the event is the Minister of Environment and Water, Mr. Imre Szabo. For more information visit: <http://www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca/eng/events.jsp?cid=205&oid=100> or www.okoindustria.hu (official website of the expo - English, French version available)

The program includes conferences on biogas, waste, energy efficiency, recycling, drinking water, wastewater, another workshop will try to find solutions on how to reduce Europe's ecological footprint, and as a wonderful networking opportunity, the Enterprise Europe Network will offer an international business meeting with environmental experts from all over the region.

For those interested companies, associations, universities, clusters etc. who are not able to attend in person, you can take part in a catalogue show. Information can be sent to the Embassy for display at the event.

If this event is of interest to you, please contact Kayla Burechailo for more information.

Kayla Burechailo

Trade Commissioner | Déléguée commerciale
Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada | Affaires étrangères et Commerce international Canada

Kayla.Burechailo@international.gc.ca
www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca/sask

Forest Day 3

December 13, 2009
Copenhagen, Denmark

Forest Day 3 will be held on 13 December at the Radisson SAS Falconer Hotel, Copenhagen, Denmark. It will take place alongside the 15th Conference of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and will be

hosted by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, the Government of Denmark and CIFOR.

Forest Day 3 will build on the success of Forest Day 1 and 2, which helped to place forests high on the global agenda for climate change. It will bring together stakeholders from the forest and climate change communities to look beyond Copenhagen, at the issues related to implementation of the Copenhagen outcomes. [Click here to register](#)

Forest Day 1 in Bali attracted over 800 participants, Forest Day 2 in Poznan nearly 1000. We expect another popular event in Copenhagen so we encourage you to register now to guarantee yourself a place.

How can you be involved?

[Click here](#) to learn about the eight Learning Events that will be featured at Forest Day 3, and download a submission form to offer to speak at, or to co-host, one of these Learning Events.

[Click here](#) to apply for an exhibition booth or poster at Forest Day 3.

www.forestday3.org

Energy Transitions in an Interdependent World Conference

February 25 & 26
University of Sussex

The Sussex Energy Group at SPRU (Science & Technology Policy Research), University of Sussex is organizing and hosting an international conference to discuss and debate emerging research agendas in energy social science.

The conference will be held at the University of Sussex, near Brighton, on the 25th and 26th February 2010 and is open to academics, policy makers, industry and non-governmental organizations working in the field of energy transitions. We welcome abstracts that outline theoretically robust and empirically informed contributions to one or more of the following themes:
low carbon energy innovation; secure and resilient energy systems; the politics of sustainable energy transitions.

Further details including the full conference call and application guidelines are available from the conference website:

<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/sussexenergygroup/conference>

<<https://exchange.lse.ac.uk/exchweb/bin/redirect.asp?URL=http://www.sussex.ac.uk/sussexenergygroup/conference>>