



# Information Bulletin

## July 22, 2009

### MEIA Gold Charter Members



### Silver Charter Member





## MEIA Information Bulletin for July 22, 2009

<b>MEIA News .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Student Chapter – Speed Mentoring.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Emerging Issues .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Remediation and Prevention .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>General News .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Local Interest .....</b>	<b>5</b>
We're Keen to Recycle e-waste .....	5
2nd Atlanta International Environmental Trade Mission .....	6
Manitoba Faces New Devils Lake Discord.....	8
Turning up the HEAT.....	9
Government Funding Boosts Programs Directed at Agriculture Business Skills, Food Safety and the Environment.....	12
New Green Women's Jail Among the First.....	13
Spring Offering for Mining Assistance Supports \$12 Million in Mineral Exploration.....	15
<b>National Interest .....</b>	<b>16</b>
SEIMA Study Will Set the Stage for Investment in Environmental Industry .....	16
Canadian Environmental Trade Mission to Mexico .....	17
Request for Submissions – CMHC and NRCAN’s Equilibrium™ Communities Initiative .....	18
Canada And The U.S. Work Together On Clean Energy Dialogue.....	19
Government of Canada Announces Regulations to Reduce VOC Emissions from Automotive Refinishing Products .....	20
Government of Canada Invests in Canadian Biosphere Reserves .....	21
Prentice Irked by Pipeline Review's Rising Cost, Delay.....	22
Tiny Nation at War With Rising Tide.....	23
Canada Plugged in to New Hybrids.....	26
<b>International Interest.....</b>	<b>29</b>
ECN Policy Studies Publications .....	29
<b>Business and Career Opportunities.....</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Local.....</b>	<b>29</b>
Biomass Study.....	29
<b>National .....</b>	<b>30</b>
CCME - Climate Change Adaptation – Methods to Prioritize Areas and to Evaluate Water Monitoring Networks.....	30

CCME – Nutrient Loadings to Surface Water – Transboundary/Interjurisdictional Watersheds and Basins and Best Management Practices .....	31
CCME - Report on the Suitability of Various Metrics for Ambient PM and Ozone Standards in Canada	31
CCME - Development of a Protocol for the Development of Soil Vapour Guidelines for Volatile Substances.....	31
ABEX Award Nominations are open! .....	32
<b><i>Upcoming Conferences/Events/Trade Show .....</i></b>	<b><i>32</i></b>
<b>Local .....</b>	<b>32</b>
Connect USA Canada Economic Summit.....	32
The Prairie Water Policy Symposium.....	33
<b>National .....</b>	<b>33</b>
Climate Change: Legislation, Regulation & Emissions Reporting.....	33
Coast Waste Management Association Conference .....	34
GLOBE 2010: Conference Outline Now Available .....	35
<b>International .....</b>	<b>35</b>
Renewable Energy India 2009 Expo .....	35
2009 North American Biochar Conference.....	36
World Climate Conference .....	37
International Mine Water Conference .....	37
Adaptation to Climate Change: The Role of Ecosystem Services .....	37
Forest Day 3.....	38
Energy Transitions in an Interdependent World Conference .....	39

## **MEIA News**

### ***Student Chapter – Speed Mentoring***

There are still a few spaces available for the speed mentoring event this coming September!

The MEIA is looking for ways to encourage students to become familiar with environmental industries in Manitoba. MEIA would like to assist its Student Chapter Members in determining how they can apply their knowledge and enhance their skills by exploring various employment opportunities within the Province.

It is important that students are able to make connections with Manitoba employers. MEIA would like to provide such an opportunity by hosting a “Speed Mentoring” event at the onset of the new school term next September.

The idea would be to have a number of tables, with a company representative at each, who would be prepared to brief interested students on their company’s goals and initiatives, as well as to advise them of potential employment opportunities.

We currently have 13 student chapter members who we expect to attend, each of whom would expect a 2 minute presentation from each company representative. Some time would then be allotted for questions from the students.

At this point, we simply want to determine if there is enough interest to proceed with an event of this nature.

If you are interested in participating, could you please contact the MEIA at 783-7090, or email to [admin@meia.mb.ca](mailto:admin@meia.mb.ca)

Thank-you to all of those who have responded so far. It looks to be a super event!

### ***Emerging Issues***

We are in the early planning stages of the Emerging Issues Conference and invite input from our MEIA members. If you have any suggestions as to topics you would like addressed, or speakers you would appreciate hearing, please let us know. We may be reached at [admin@meia.mb.ca](mailto:admin@meia.mb.ca).

The MEIA Emerging Issues conference will be held on Thursday, November 26, 2009 at the Fort Garry Hotel.

Mark your calendars!

### ***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***

#### **We're Keen to Recycle e-waste**

Drop-offs double at free depots

July 6, 2009

The volume of e-waste dropped off at Manitoba depots this year is more than double the amount collected during the same time frame last year, less than two months after the free depots opened their doors.

Manitobans have dropped off about 330,000 kilograms of old computers, TVs and other e-waste for recycling since mid-May, or about 26 semi-trailer loads full, according to the provincial department that runs the project.

"I think it's just greater convenience, accessibility, awareness and interest in environmental issues in general," said Lindsey Irwin, a program analyst with Green Manitoba.

Irwin said more depots and longer hours are likely reasons for the boost. The province announced in mid-May at least 10 depots would collect e-waste year-round, half of them in Winnipeg. Another 20 depots around Manitoba would collect the waste until the end of October, some as far north as Flin Flon and Thompson. The depots are listed at [www.greenmanitoba.ca](http://www.greenmanitoba.ca).

The program is free for residential customers, with the recycling costs covered by an estimated \$1 million from the province. Part of that money will come from a new \$10-per-tonne provincial levy on landfills.

Victor Kowall, who works at the Brandon landfill site, said it's easy to see the e-waste increase: "Fifteen per cent wouldn't surprise me."

"The volumes have definitely been increasing," said Adam Chisick, marketing relations head for Urbanmine. The e-waste centre held a collection day with Investors Group before the provincial round-up began -- and vehicles lined up around the block for the event.

"I think those things have definitely helped to make people aware that these programs are available," Chisick said.

E-waste collected in Manitoba is sent for processing to Sims Recycling Solutions in Brampton, Ont., which handles up to 18 million kilograms of e-waste annually.

Canadian general manager Sebastien Rosner said Sims keeps its e-waste out of landfills and makes sure none is shipped overseas, where old electronics are sometimes taken apart under questionable health and environmental conditions in developing countries.

Staff at Sims remove hazardous materials from e-waste. That includes mercury-containing light bulbs in LCD monitors and televisions, and the glass from older CRT computer monitors, which contains hefty amounts of lead.

After the toxic parts are removed, the other materials get shredded into five-centimetre pieces of what Rosner calls "pure commodities." The fragments of plastic, steel, copper, aluminum and other materials are sorted and sent to various processors and smelters.

Rosner said all vendors that receive material from Sims are audited to make sure they follow safe practices. One of the few items that can't be recycled is the laminated wood used in older TVs. Rosner said the glue in the wood is harmful to the environment, so it can't be shredded for landscaping use.

By: Lindsey Wiebe

Source: [www.winnipegfreepress.com](http://www.winnipegfreepress.com)

## **2nd Atlanta International Environmental Trade Mission**

October 5 – 9, 2009

The Winnipeg Regional Office of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada and the Consulate General in Atlanta, in partnership with the city of Atlanta and la Délégation du Québec, is organizing an international environmental trade mission on October 5-9, 2009.

The 2nd Atlanta International Environmental Trade Mission will focus on clean water and wastewater systems, innovative waste management and cutting edge technologies for green buildings. These three primary issues present economic opportunities in the 21st century for businesses that are solutions driven. The Trade Mission provides a perfect opportunity for organizations to introduce their products and services in the Atlanta market.

Benefits the trade mission offers:

Take advantage of this exclusive opportunity to meet one-on-one with key decision makers for the city of Atlanta

Establish your company's environmental credentials in a growing market ready for exceptional Canadian product and services

Meet with stakeholders from organizations and companies including Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport (the busiest in the world); Atlanta's Public Works Department; the Atlanta Development Authority; the Georgia Department of Economic Development; the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce; and others

Meet and network with other outstanding environmental companies from around the world.

Atlanta, a market of over 4.5 million inhabitants, has already invested heavily in large-scale green development initiatives such as the Beltline Project.

Participate in five matchmaking meetings with meals and receptions for only \$1500 (U.S.)

The website for the conference : <http://www.environmentaltrademission.org/>

We look forward to your participation in this exciting opportunity. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kindly,

Charles Hatzipanayis  
Trade Commissioner  
Winnipeg Regional Office of the Trade Commissioner Service  
Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada  
(204) 983-6033

## **Manitoba Faces New Devils Lake Discord**

July 16, 2009

Manitoba officials are "deeply disappointed" North Dakota is about to allow saltier water to flow from Devils Lake into the Red River basin.

On Wednesday, the state's health department announced an emergency rule that will allow sulphate levels of up to 750 milligrams per litre of water to flow through the Devils Lake outlet into the Sheyenne River and north to Manitoba.

Right now, water may only flow from Devils Lake as long as sulphate levels in the Sheyenne don't exceed 450 milligrams per litre.

"We are deeply disappointed that North Dakota would unilaterally take this action knowing that it may harm its neighbours," a spokesman for Water Stewardship Minister Christine Melnick said. "We are continuing to work with our federal government to seek a satisfactory resolution, including engaging the International Joint Commission."

Manitoba has long contended that the Devils Lake outlet could deluge Manitoba's watershed with salty water and foreign organisms that could alter the ecology of the Red River and Lake Winnipeg.

Last month, the state water commission, which is chaired by North Dakota's governor, earmarked \$50,000 to study the idea of boosting the water flow through the outlet, and voted unanimously to ask the state health department to abolish the discharge permit needed to operate the outlet.

It's the latest twist in the Devils Lake saga that has seen the Doer government butt heads with North Dakota for more than five years. The feud has prompted numerous trips to court and put pressure on the Canadian government to raise the issue in talks with Washington.

The most recent changes could spawn a new round of court challenges, Manitoba warned last month.

State officials say the change is needed to ease Devils Lake flooding.

By: Mary Agnes Welch

Source: [www.winnipegfreepress.com](http://www.winnipegfreepress.com)

## Turning up the HEAT

September 21, 2008

Curtis Hull's problem should be familiar to most any Manitoban heading into the winter in an aging home: what to do about the old heating system?

For Hull, the decision was also an environmental one: the Climate Change Connection project manager had already worked out his carbon footprint with his old, mid-efficiency natural gas heater, and wanted to make the best choice for his new system.

Based on what he knew about hydro-electricity -- renewable, emission-free-- and finding geothermal wouldn't fit his pocketbook or lot size, he opted for electric heating.

But in the short term, he thinks natural gas is likely the greener choice, and suspects by using electricity for heating now he's contributing to greenhouse gas emissions by denying coal-heavy American markets cleaner, surplus power from Manitoba.

"If you take the situation right here today, then it's better to burn natural gas in a high-efficiency furnace," he said. "...But I was in the process of changing my furnace, and I've put in a furnace that's going to last 20 years or more. I'm counting on everybody getting away from fossil fuels."

There's considerable debate over whether hydro trumps natural gas as the more environmentally-friendly type of heating, or vice versa. Throw costs into the mix and the question of green heating is bound to flummox the most well-meaning homeowner.

Here's a run-down on the pros and cons of the most popular heating options, and where the experts stand:

### WHAT'S GREENER?

Manitoba leads the country in geothermal heat pumps, with roughly 4,000 of the systems around the province, and advocates tout the underground pumps as the most environmentally friendly option on the market.

Going geothermal could also earn you points under the new LEED for Homes in Canada program, which certifies homes that meet green criteria much like the standard LEED program ranks office buildings.

Under the program, a high-efficiency natural gas furnace or boiler will earn the same points as a geothermal system. But heating with electricity, even hydro, won't earn you any points at all.

Program coordinator Chris Higgins conceded some people initially find it hard to understand the idea, particularly when they come from a hydro-rich province. "People will say, 'I don't have to worry about electrical efficiency... The only reason I would save power is so they can send it to someone else in California. Why would I bother?'"

Beyond the environmental impact of damming waterways, Higgins said the answer has partly to do with the international market for electricity, and partly to do with its inefficiency in terms of heating.

Surplus power can usually be bought and sold by different states and provinces -- most of Manitoba's surplus hydro goes to Minnesota, for example. As the argument goes, the less hydro used here, the more can be sold to Minnesota, where two thirds of electricity is normally produced with coal.

"If we use less electricity to heat our homes in British Columbia or Manitoba, and we use natural gas instead, or use a more efficient technology... that electricity can be used elsewhere for a higher use," said Higgins.

The argument is supported by University of Winnipeg senior scholar Peter Miller, who puts natural gas above even geothermal because the heat pumps still need electricity to run.

But not all environmentalists and energy experts agree. The David Suzuki Foundation favours hydro over gas, and thinks the LEED argument only works if coal plants are actually being taken offline as a result of the influx of cleaner energy. "That's almost never the case," said climate change policy analyst Dale Marshall.

The provincial government isn't a fan of the argument, either. "It is a paradox to go down that road," said Robert Walger, a project manager with the energy development initiative. "How does one motivate other jurisdictions to take responsibility for their business, and how they conduct their business?"

#### WHAT'S CHEAPER?

Working out a cost of any given heating system depends on dozens of factors, and how far into the future you're willing to count your savings.

Take geothermal. It's the priciest option to install, with costs from \$19,000 to \$25,000 depending on your lot size and your home's energy efficiency. However, getting a new system makes you eligible for thousands of dollars in provincial and federal incentives, as well as a low-interest loan from Manitoba Hydro to sweeten the pot.

Hydro estimates costs at about \$568 annually, roughly half of what you'd pay with electricity or natural gas, and by some estimates the system will pay for itself in seven to 10 years.

For those who lack the set-up or cash for geothermal, natural gas is still slightly cheaper than electricity. Including space and water heating and a tank of gas, estimated costs range from \$1,091 to \$1,569, depending whether you've bought a high-efficiency model. If you do, you could receive another \$500 back: that's the value of a rebate Hydro is offering until October 13.

Despite the appeal of gas prices now, unpredictable fluctuations make it tough to bank on those numbers in the long-term. In fact, one of the selling points of geothermal -- and electricity, for that matter -- is that the costs are generally more predictable.

Meanwhile, current electricity costs are estimated at between \$1,218 and \$1,237 for an average single-family home. The small difference comes from investing in a Power Smart electric water heater.

#### WHAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE?

Greener: Most groups see geothermal as the greenest mainstream choice, but opinions are split on whether natural gas or hydro comes in second. The verdict depends in part on whether you see hydro-electricity as a renewable reward for Manitobans, or a resource to green up the rest of the continent.

That said, most everyone can agree on the importance of high-efficiency heating systems, and the need to make sure homes are well-insulated and sealed before investing in a new heater.

Cheaper: In the long-term, geothermal wins out as the only system that will pay for itself -- provided you actually need a new heating system, and don't live in a new home. Otherwise, high-efficiency natural gas furnace is the cheaper option. At least, it is for now -- whether that will be the case 10 years down the road is a tougher call.

By: Lindsey Wiebe

#### PROVINCIAL HEATING BREAKDOWN:

Homes with gas heating: 238,500

Homes with electric heating: 136,700

Homes using other sources, like propane, oil or wood: 73,000

#### ENERGY UP-AND-COMERS:

Biomass: Heating with biomass - which might mean firewood or straw pellets - is a traditional method can be surprisingly efficient, if done correctly. Biomass burning the green way depends on having a high-efficiency stove and access to dry, sustainably harvested wood or pellets.

Solar: Solar power has lots of potential, but it's not always cost-effective for heating when there's ready access to electricity or natural gas. Manitoba Hydro is involved in solar research, but as of yet there are no incentives for homeowners.

Wind: Hydro's overall power grid includes energy from a wind farm in St. Leon. But Hull says individual windmills aren't yet the solution for most homeowners, due to their ungainly size and the need for a long stretch of unobstructed land.

Source: <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/historic/33065649.html>

## **Government Funding Boosts Programs Directed at Agriculture Business Skills, Food Safety and the Environment**

MARQUETTE, Man: July 15, 2009

Governments of Canada and Manitoba are partnering to deliver more than \$50 million to enhance agri-business skills, expand food safety measures and enhance environmental action. Gerry Ritz, Federal Agriculture Minister and Rosann Wowchuk, Manitoba Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, made the announcement today at the Macrose Dairy farm.

“Our governments are working together to help farmers tap new opportunities so that they can make their living from the marketplace,” said Minister Ritz. “These programs put farmers first by helping our agricultural industry become more competitive here at home and around the world.”

“These program suites provide valuable tools for today’s food producers, processors and agri-business sectors,” said Minister Wowchuk. “Maintaining a profitable and sustainable agriculture industry supports the economic and community development that benefits all Manitobans.”

The Business Skills Suite includes programs directed at building, improving and maintaining business management practices for farmers and agri-product processors. Topics in this suite include financial management, value-added business practices, marketing and succession planning. Leadership development through 4-H programs is also part of this suite.

The Food Safety Suite provides programs and resources designed to help producers and food processors establish and implement food safety and traceability practices on-farm and post-farm to proactively manage risks. These programs encourage the development of biosecurity measures on farms to prevent the introduction or control the spread of disease. Traceability systems help verify identification and tracking of food products and help speed the response to food-related health issues and increase assurances to consumers of food safety.

The Environment Suite includes programs that will help farmers establish and implement environmental farm plans. Implementing environmentally friendly farm practices improves and extends the sustainability of farm operations and improves farm production efficiency while contributing to environmental protection and conservation.

Nationally, the federal and provincial governments are investing \$1.3 billion over five years to Growing Forward programs. The three programs announced today are part of this agreement to promote and assist the agriculture sector in Manitoba.

Further information on Growing Forward programs is available at any GO office throughout the province or on-line at [www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/](http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/).

Source: [www.gov.mb.ca](http://www.gov.mb.ca)

## **New Green Women's Jail Among the First**

Highly anticipated corrections facility to replace outdated building in Portage

December 19, 2008

Set to break ground early next year, the new provincial women's jail will be finished two years later than planned.

When it finally opens, however, it will be one of the first green jails in Canada. Plans for the environmentally friendly building mean it will be leaps and bounds ahead of the current prison in Portage la Prairie, a brick structure about 90 kilometres west of Winnipeg so dated it spells "jail" as "gaol" outside.

For years, human rights advocates decried the women's prison built in 1893 for men as being overcrowded and unacceptable.

But the new jail -- set to be built on a lot in Headingley, about 20 kilometres from downtown Winnipeg -- will be heated with high-efficiency boilers and partially built with recycled materials.

The 120,000 square foot facility also will incorporate natural daylight and light sensors to save energy, among other features.

"It really connects with environmental sustainability," said Chris Hauch, Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation accommodation services division assistant deputy minister.

"It's kind of hard to do with an institutional building, but worth it in the long run." The new jail will have about 100 spaces for provincial prisoners and 25 spots for federal prisoners, he said.

That's far greater than the Portage prison's current official capacity, which is about 35 spots. In 2001, the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry recommended the Portage Correctional Centre (PCC) close. Five years later, the province announced a new facility was planned to open by next year, after consulting with an independent committee and community members.

Hauch said delays occurred due to overly optimistic calculations around how long it would take to design the new jail.

He said the old jail has got to go: "It needs to be replaced, I'll simply say that."

That thought was echoed by Ken Crawford, Manitoba Government and General Employees Union corrections staff representative, who said PCC correctional officers are eager for a new women's prison to open.

Uncertainty about when the new prison will debut has caused about 50 MGEU employees frustration about their safety and security, said Crawford, as well as a recognition women there need better programming.

"We need a women's jail yesterday," he said. "This has been many years we've been promised a new women's facility."

A new women's jail will help ease over-crowding at other facilities like the Remand Centre, he said.

The province's announcement in 2006 said the new women's jail was planned to have an on-site healing lodge, and they wanted to issue a request for proposals that would promote Aboriginal management and operation of this service.

Hauch said this week there will not be a on-site healing lodge explicitly for Aboriginal ceremonies, but a multi-purpose spiritual and cultural space where many types of activities will occur. He also said there will be an area where job training and teaching can happen, a feature that should please female justice advocates, after complaints filed in 2001 about the jail's shabby conditions and poor programming to the Manitoba Human Rights Society by the Elizabeth Fry Society.

"You have to incorporate those elements that support programming that didn't exist back in the day (when it was built)," said Hauch.

The jail will also have a mother-child unit designed especially for female inmates to visit with their families, and a special needs unit for people who have problems

moving around. That's a dramatic change from the current Portage jail, where female inmates have to conduct some of their visits in the foyer of the antiquated building.

"There are a number of things in this new facility that don't really exist in the old one," said Hauch.

By: Gabrielle Giroday

Source: [www.winnipegfreepress.com](http://www.winnipegfreepress.com)

## **Spring Offering for Mining Assistance Supports \$12 Million in Mineral Exploration**

July 14, 2009

The provincial government will provide \$1.1 million from this year's first offering of the Mineral Exploration Assistance Program (MEAP) to set in motion 25 mineral exploration projects generating about \$12.7 million in expenditures, Science, Technology, Energy and Mines Minister Jim Rondeau announced today.

"It's gratifying to see that companies continue to choose Manitoba to invest in mineral exploration," said Rondeau. "We know MEAP plays a significant role in attracting companies to the province and that historically every MEAP dollar in support returns just over nine dollars in company spending for exploration in Manitoba."

The minister noted total company spending on exploration in the province for 2009 is forecasted at \$77.4 million which is well above the 10-year average of \$52.2 million.

Rondeau also noted that three new companies have been attracted in part by MEAP's financial assistance to explore in Manitoba for the first time.

"Rockcliff was attracted to explore in mine-friendly Manitoba partly due to the existence of the Mineral Exploration Assistance Program," said Peter Wood, vice-president, exploration of Rockcliff Resources. "This provincial program provides an important source of funds that help us continue to explore our Snow Lake Project properties, especially now during these difficult economic times."

MEAP was recently renewed for an additional three years starting with the April 2008 offering and will offer \$2.5 million of assistance annually through two offerings per year.

MEAP provides assistance of up to 25 per cent of approved eligible expenses to a maximum of \$300,000. There are higher levels of assistance, up to 35 per cent to a maximum of \$400,000, to encourage exploration in under-explored frontier regions and to help sustain mining communities such as Lynn Lake, Leaf Rapids and Snow Lake.

Ten of the 25 projects are in the Lynn Lake/Leaf Rapids, Snow Lake and northern areas including the Far North, Northern Superior and the Hudson Bay Lowland.

“Mineral exploration benefits the economies of rural and northern communities,” said Rondeau. “It is important to support the mining industry as it searches for new ore bodies to mine that will create new jobs and business opportunities for Manitobans, and that’s exactly what MEAP is doing.”

To view a list of the approved MEAP projects and a map showing the project locations, visit: [www.gov.mb.ca/stem/mrd/busdev/incentives](http://www.gov.mb.ca/stem/mrd/busdev/incentives).

Source: [www.gov.mb.ca](http://www.gov.mb.ca)

## ***National Interest***

### **SEIMA Study Will Set the Stage for Investment in Environmental Industry**

As one of the fastest growing segments of the global economy, the environmental industry has unparalleled opportunities and formidable challenges ahead. The Saskatchewan Environmental Industry and Managers Association (SEIMA) helps smooth the road to opportunity by addressing industry-level challenges.

Describing Saskatchewan’s environmental industry is a best-guess exercise, since no reliable empirical data exist. While Statistics Canada attempted several years back to capture baseline data for the environmental industry across the country, the numbers for Saskatchewan left out an important segment of that economic activity. The Environmental Careers Organization of Canada (ECO), relying largely on the work of Stats Can, undertook another study in 2007. However, deeming the numbers gathered for Saskatchewan to be “statistically insignificant”, lumped Saskatchewan industry data with that of Manitoba, leaving both provinces no further ahead.

In order for an economic sector to receive the benefit of sound public policy and investment, its economic impact must be clearly identified. Neither the Stats Can nor ECO study was able to provide legislators with the information needed to support public investment in what the industry knows to be a sunrise economic opportunity.

For three years, SEIMA has been in pursuit of the funding needed to develop an empirical measure of the industry. Thanks to funding now secured from The Western Economic Partnership Agreement (WEPA), this long-awaited investigation is underway.

The study will focus largely on the labour impact – who works where, at what and for how much. It will also attempt to assess the expectations and plans for growth over the next five years in an attempt to anticipate both employment needs as well as growing economic impact.

The final product - a report due in late fall 2009 - will provide the hard evidence needed to garner the support of public policy makers and investors, the interest of entrepreneurs, and to develop the confidence of Saskatchewan's environmental practitioners to exercise their business acumen in markets outside of this province.

At long last, Saskatchewan will know what is happening in the environmental industry within its borders – an industry that until 2008, had been growing nationally at more than 13% per year. The impact here is expected to be remarkable. Stay tuned!

## **Canadian Environmental Trade Mission to Mexico**

There has never been a more important time to explore business opportunities outside your border!

Join with environmental companies from across Canada, from September 28, 2009 to October 6, 2009, to realize the potential of the Mexican market. If you've ever been interested in doing business and succeeding in Mexico this mission is for you. Affordable and timely, this mission offers customized strategic business match-making, the premier GREEN Expo show in Mexico City and numerous networking opportunities with Mexican decision makers.

Choose your package options!

Meet everyone you need to know at the GREEN Expo in Mexico City, Mexico's largest environmental show venue!  
Participate in sessions on market intelligence from those who know!  
Meet one-on-one with likely business partners/investors!  
Travel to the Mexico/US border region (Monterrey, Matamoros & Reynosa), where opportunity abounds!  
Meet and dine with Canadian entrepreneurs working in the border region; share business success stories!  
Work "on" your business, instead of "in" your business!  
Jam-packed opportunity development!

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, The Saskatchewan Environmental Industry and Managers Association and the Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership invite you to participate in an online Webinar information session from the comfort of your own office on Friday July 24, 2009, 10:30 am, Central Standard Time (GMT -06:00, Saskatchewan). Please find the attached information sheet.

Please RSVP to David Froh, STEP, [dfroh@sasktrade.sk.ca](mailto:dfroh@sasktrade.sk.ca) If you have any questions regarding the Webinar session, please let me know and I will walk you through it.

### **Request for Submissions – CMHC and NRCAN's Equilibrium™ Communities Initiative**

A Request for Submissions has now been issued, inviting developers, with their teams to submit project proposals that address specific sustainability themes, including energy use, water use, land use, transportation and others. (MERX – Reference # 177644) Closing date: September 22, 2009.

The Equilibrium™ Communities Initiative is a three-year, \$4.2M initiative of CMHC and Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN). It will provide financial, technical and promotional assistance to sustainable neighbourhood development projects across the country chosen through a national competition. [Find out more...](#)

## **Canada And The U.S. Work Together On Clean Energy Dialogue**

OTTAWA: June 30, 2009

The Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of the Environment, today delivered closing remarks at the first Canada-U.S. Clean Energy Dialogue (CED) Roundtable meeting in Washington. The CED represents the first stage in Canada-U.S. collaboration on clean energy and climate change.

Following two days of discussions between the CED working groups and close to fifty private sector, academic, and non-governmental experts, both Minister Prentice and U.S. Energy Secretary Stephen Chu were optimistic about the progress made.

"The work being done under the Clean Energy Dialogue will allow our two countries to work together to build a new clean energy economy even as we move ahead with our broader economic recovery and reinvestment efforts," said Minister Prentice. "We are cooperating to encourage the development of clean energy technologies, to advance our respective environmental and energy objectives, and to reduce greenhouse gases."

The Clean Energy Dialogue was established by Prime Minister Stephen Harper and U.S. President Barack Obama following the President's first visit to Canada in February 2009. It is designed to advance collaboration in three key areas:  
Clean energy research and development;  
Development and deployment of clean energy technology, and;  
Building a more efficient electricity grid based on clean and renewable energy.

Continental action is an important part of Canada's climate change plan and will reinforce Canada's domestic goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent from 2006 levels by 2020. The CED will also contribute to the creation of a Canada-U.S. clean energy sector that will further lend support to Canada's commitment to ensuring that 90 percent of electricity be provided by non-emitting sources by 2020.

At the Roundtable meeting participants began developing an Action Plan that will be presented to Minister Prentice and Secretary Chu in mid-July. Over the next couple of months, working groups will continue to consult with provinces and private sector leaders to finalize a joint Action Plan on clean energy that will be presented to Prime Minister Harper and President Obama in August 2009.

Source: [www.ec.gc.ca](http://www.ec.gc.ca)

## **Government of Canada Announces Regulations to Reduce VOC Emissions from Automotive Refinishing Products**

GATINEAU, Que: July 8, 2009

New regulations announced today will reduce Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) in automotive refinishing products. VOCs found in these products contribute to the creation of smog, which is harmful to both human health and the environment.

“The Government of Canada is serious about cleaning up the air to protect the environment and health of Canadians,” said Canada’s Environment Minister, Jim Prentice. “This is one of a series of regulations we are putting in place to reduce VOC emissions from everyday consumer and commercial products.”

The regulations introduce VOC concentration limits for 14 categories of coatings and surface cleaners, which are used for refinishing or repairing the painted surfaces of automobiles, trucks, and other mobile equipment. These regulations were developed following extensive stakeholder consultation. Once in force, the VOC concentration limits will align with the requirements of leading jurisdictions in the development of VOC product regulations, such as California and the European Union.

The regulations are expected to reduce the annual amount of VOCs emitted from automotive refinishing products by an average of 40 percent. Combined with other VOC reduction initiatives proposed under the Regulatory Framework for Air Emissions of April 2007, the regulations are expected to reduce ground-level ozone and particulate matter which contribute to the formation of smog. Their reduction would in turn benefit human health and the environment.

The Government of Canada added VOCs to the List of Toxic Substances in Schedule 1 of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (CEPA 1999) on June 12, 2003. This addition gave the government the authority to develop VOC control instruments, such as these regulations, under CEPA 1999.

For more information on the regulations to reduce VOC emissions from consumer and commercial products visit [www.ec.gc.ca/nopp/voc](http://www.ec.gc.ca/nopp/voc) .

Source: [www.ec.gc.ca](http://www.ec.gc.ca)

## **Government of Canada Invests in Canadian Biosphere Reserves**

LANSDOWNE, Ont: July 16, 2009

Gord Brown, Member of Parliament for Leeds-Grenville, on behalf of Canada's Environment Minister Jim Prentice joined representatives from the Canadian Biosphere Reserves Association and the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve today, to announce \$5 million in funding over five years to support 14 of the 15 biosphere reserves in Canada and the Canadian Biosphere Reserves Association.

"Today's announcement reflects the Government of Canada's commitment to protecting our rich biodiversity across the country," said Minister Prentice. "Canada's biosphere reserves are excellent examples of community-based initiatives that protect our natural environment while ensuring the continued growth of the local economy in an ecologically sustainable way."

Biosphere reserves are areas designated and recognized internationally by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) for demonstrating practical approaches to balancing conservation and development.

Biosphere reserves are comprised of one or more core protected areas, a buffer area in which activities compatible with conservation occur, and a large area of co-operation where sustainable resource management practices are promoted and developed. The world network consists of 553 biosphere reserves in 107 countries.

The Government of Canada's investment will facilitate activities and projects within the Canadian biosphere reserves related to conservation, sustainable development and capacity building. It will allow the Canadian Biosphere Reserves Association to build up their organization, raise the profile of biosphere reserves in communities and become self-sufficient models for community-based environmental action.

Additionally, it will help them co-ordinate projects such as environmental monitoring, promoting sustainable tourism, facilitating sustainable agriculture, and raising public awareness on sustainable development and promoting sustainable economic activities.

"By fostering sustainable resource management practices, biosphere reserves enhance the conservation value of Canada's protected areas," said Gord Brown.

"The Government of Canada is committed to land conservation and preserving biodiversity."

Related Documents:

[Canadian Biosphere Reserves](#)

[Backgrounder, 2009-07-16]

[Canadian Biosphere Reserves Funding Breakdown](#)  
[Background, 2009-07-16]

Source: [www.ec.gc.ca](http://www.ec.gc.ca)

## **Prentice Irked by Pipeline Review's Rising Cost, Delay**

Ottawa: July 20, 2009

Environment Minister Jim Prentice has condemned as "outrageous" the tripling of the time and cost to \$18.6 million of an environmental review of the largest construction proposal in Canadian history, the Mackenzie Valley gas project.

At the same time, Prentice expressed excitement that the results of the review, a huge milestone in the approval process, appears to be within sight.

The independent, quasi-judicial joint review panel says it is taking the time necessary to produce a rigorous, unbiased review of the proposal to develop natural gas fields near the Beaufort Sea and build a 1,220-kilometre pipeline down the Mackenzie Valley in the Northwest Territories to Alberta.

Prentice said the seven-member panel, appointed by the Liberal government in the summer of 2004, has had ample time to do its work and he is riding herd to ensure they submit their overdue report by December -- two years after the pipeline hearings ended. They have taking an "unreasonable" amount of time to write the report, he said.

While critical of the panel, Prentice expressed excitement about the prospect of the project going ahead before U.S. proposals for a pipeline through Alaska come on stream.

"In our country we've been working on this project for close to 40 years at this point, and we have never been as close as we are at this point," he said.

Prentice, who has heard an array of complaints about the lengthy process, said he explored the legal options he had over the panel some time ago and found he was very restricted.

He considered firing the panel and starting over but ruled that out as "counterproductive." Instead, he has been closely monitoring the pace of work and ensuring the panel has the writers and other resources to meet the December deadline.

Prentice was commenting on the \$18.6-million panel cost cited in 1,500 pages of documents released in response to an access to information request to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency. Two thirds of the panel cost is paid by the private sector, the rest by the federal government.

The access request, which cost \$2,500, was made by Permafrost Media, a subscription service established to monitor pipeline news. Editor Anne Cross has also petitioned the federal environment commissioner in the auditor-general's office to look into spending and accounting controls on the panel.

"Everyone has expressed concern about this -- the premier of the Northwest Territories has. I'm up in Yellowknife, I've heard extensively from... the business community," Prentice said.

When the panel was appointed, it was supposed to complete its work in about 16 months and cost \$6 million. The access documents indicate the review has grown to 800 pages from 200.

Brian Chambers, a spokesman for the panel, said it is taking the time necessary to produce a thorough review based on analysis of 115 days of hearings and 5,000 submissions. He said the review is commensurate with an environmental-impact statement by Imperial Oil and the other pipeline proponents which "required three years of work and considerable resources to complete" and required further information after it was given to the panel in 2004.

After the review is submitted, the government must respond and both the report and the response will be submitted to the National Energy Board, which has the authority to kill the project or recommend it proceed.

By: Juliet O'Neill

Source: Canwest News Service

## **Tiny Nation at War With Rising Tide**

Islands turn to sustainable energy to set an example for the world

July 20, 2009

A tiny island nation in the Pacific Ocean -- that could be wiped off the map because of global warming -- is seeking to set an example for the world by shedding its dependency on oil and becoming powered entirely by renewable energy sources.

Tuvalu is a Polynesian island nation located midway between Hawaii and Australia. It is made up of four reef islands and five atolls, with the highest elevation a little over four metres above sea level. The doomed archipelago is the second-lowest elevation country in the world after Maldives.

And recently, the island has become the poster child for the potentially catastrophic damage global warming could cause.

In an effort to combat climate change, and with the help of industrialized nations, all nine inhabited islands by 2020 plan to be rid of generator fuel, which is currently shipped from New Zealand at a huge environmental cost.

Tuvalu has experienced major flooding of crops and roads as the tides grow higher each year. And scientists predict a large sea level rise this century of anywhere from a half a metre to two metres, says Dale Marshall of the David Suzuki Foundation.

If that happens, the ocean could swallow Tuvalu within 50 years and force the evacuation of the entire population of nearly 12,000 people.

"These islands are going to be wiped out," said Marshall. "Some of these islands, the highest point is a metre."

Tuvalu, he said, is hoping Australia will take residents in and allow them to remain a sovereign nation, should they have to flee their islands.

"If some predictions are right and the sea rises two metres, then even a serious decrease in emissions might still wipe them out," he said.

"But if the prediction is closer to under a metre and if we do have deep emission cuts then we might be able to avoid the impacts on small islands."

Tuvalu's plight has caught the attention of a non-profit consortium of electric companies from the G8 industrial nations, including Hydro-Quebec and Ontario Power Generation.

The consortium -- or e8 as it's called -- began the Tuvalu initiative by donating a large-scale solar-energy system 14 months ago. The system was installed on the roof of Tuvalu's largest football stadium and now supplies five per cent of the electricity needed by the nation's capital, Funafuti.

The operation has reduced Tuvalu's consumption of generator fuel by about 17,000 litres and reduced Tuvalu's carbon footprint by about 50 tonnes, according to the e8. Tuvalu intends to expand solar power to the outer islands with help from the U.S. and Italian governments.

"We look forward to the day when our nation offers an example to all -- powered entirely by natural resources, such as the sun and the wind," said Kausea Natano, Tuvalu's minister for public utilities and industries, in a recent statement.

Johane Meagher, executive director of the e8 and based in Montreal, said Tuvulu's main challenge will be to find a way to have enough backup energy to use when there is no sunlight.

"We're talking about a battery system," she said. "I'm sure if (Tuvalu) wants to get 100 per cent energy from renewable sources they will be able to look at various options that will evolve in the next few years."

Tuvalu officials hope the move toward sustainable power will prompt action by countries at upcoming climate talks in Copenhagen.

"It is a message to the world about the urgent need to promote sustainable energy development and reduce greenhouse gas emissions on a massive scale," said Meagher.

Though Canada may not be in danger of being wiped out by climate change, Marshall said rising sea levels would cause serious damage to areas on the world's longest coastline, which stretches 243,000 kilometres from the Atlantic to the Far North to the Pacific.

"Delta, B.C.? Not a good place to buy land, for example," he said.

"There are many places -- like the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence -- that are already talking about the rise and losing beaches."

Scientists believe some low-lying areas of British Columbia like Delta and Richmond could be washed out by rising sea levels.

However, Canada and other coastal countries that would be affected, such as the Netherlands, have the resources to manage the problem, whereas poorer nations will suffer the most, said Marshall.

"It's nothing compared to Bangladesh, where a onemetre rise will mean 30 million people losing their homes or in the South Pacific Islands, where we will lose entire nations."

At the G8 summit in L'Aquila, Italy, earlier this month, members of the industrialized countries promised an ambitious plan to cut greenhouse-gas emissions over the next four decades.

The countries acknowledged for the first time that humankind faces catastrophic consequences if average global temperatures, already 0.8 C above levels during the

pre-industrial age, rise more than two degrees above levels from the pre-industrial age.

United Nations-sponsored climate talks will take place in Copenhagen in December and will focus on a post-2012 plan to deal with the global warming crisis.

"There's a lot happening in world in terms of clean energy, and there is very little happening in Canada," said Marshall.

"With wind power we just got over the 1,000-megawatt limit last year and Germany is about the size of Ontario and it has over 20,000 megawatts, which is 20 times what Canada has just because it has the right policies."

By: Tiffany Crawford

Source: [www.winnipegfreepress.com](http://www.winnipegfreepress.com)

## **Canada Plugged in to New Hybrids**

Proliferation of outlets ideal for use

July 13, 2009

It's a fixture in salt-stained parking lots from Flin Flon to Fort Nelson. And it could help Canadian cities exploit the next wave of electric vehicles.

The same 120-volt electrical outlets used to keep Canadian cars' engine blocks warm in the winter can be used to power plug-in hybrid electric vehicles -- PHEVs -- year-round, avoiding the need for extensive infrastructure in which more temperate cities would have to invest, a leading transportation think-tank says.

Arne Elias, executive director of the Centre for Sustainable Transportation at the University of Winnipeg, said next year, when PHEVs are to be widely available for the first time, the unassuming outlets will enable most Canadian cities to forgo the need to install recharging stations.

Hybrids available for sale today use the electric motor only for slow speeds, idling and maintaining velocity -- acceleration is achieved through the use of a parallel gasoline motor.

PHEVs, such as Chevrolet's forthcoming Volt and plug-in variants of the Volkswagen Golf, Toyota Prius and Ford Escape, run exclusively on their electric battery until it is drained, when it switches over to gasoline.

Tests with PHEVs have shown when driven in optimal conditions, they consume fuel at a rate of approximately 2.5 litres per 100 kilometres. This compares to an average of between eight and 12 litres/100km for most gasoline-powered vehicles, according to Natural Resources Canada.

The Volt was designed for daily commutes of less than 60 kilometres, about what the average Canadian drives each day. If used solely for city driving, PHEVs can theoretically go weeks without using gasoline or releasing carbon dioxide.

The knock against PHEVs is that to realize their full potential, a network of recharging stations connected to the power grid would have to be installed wherever the cars are driven.

That issue came up during a recent conference Elias attended in California, where much of the research and development of electric cars has taken place.

"There were interminable discussions about putting in infrastructure, and I said, 'Listen, in Winnipeg, it's already there... there's a plug in every lot. They're everywhere.'"

The 120-volt outlets achieve so-called Level 1 charging, which takes between 8 to 14 hours to fully recharge a car battery, while specialized 240-volt outlets charge in about half that time.

Vancouver's passed a law last week requiring all new condominiums built in the city to install the 240-volt outlets in 20 per cent of all parking spots -- the first city in North America to do so.

Each station would cost between \$1,000 and \$1,500 to install. The residents who own each spot will likely have to pay the monthly bill for electricity used in recharging, a city official said.

This, however, seems to be of little comfort to developers, who would have liked to have seen the ratio for charging stations reduced to five per cent of parking stalls. Jeff Fisher, of Urban Development Institute, which represents developers, said the group is working with the City of Vancouver, but has concerns.

"We are always supportive of going green and efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but we want to make sure that this is the right green-car technology. There are a number out there. We have had hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and concepts like the 'hydrogen highway' for some time. We feel it might be premature to mandate this."

Ben Marans, the program manager for the Toronto Atmospheric Fund, an environmental task force run by the city, said governments must work together to promote the use of PHEVs -- and that they should take a cue from the U.S.

"There are a lot of incentives south of the border. There's \$7,500 right off the bat from the federal government for plug-ins, and every state has its own incentives," he said. "Canada is one of the only countries in the OECD that does not have any incentives for plug-ins and hybrid vehicles."

Marans said Toronto has partnered with Project Get Ready, a Colorado-based initiative that works with cities around North America, including Houston and Indianapolis -- cities with significant ties to oil, to prepare for widespread PHEV use.

The proposals being considered by Canada's largest city include non-financial incentives for PHEV drivers, such as access to HOV (high-occupancy vehicle) lanes and priority parking.

But Marans said there are technical details that need finalizing before Toronto can become fully PHEV-friendly, such as figuring out building permits and safety provisions needed for home-based recharging stations.

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty announced in January plans to introduce a payment program for PHEV drivers, in which they would lease a battery and pay for all recharging fees on a monthly bill from a utility company.

Most other Canadian municipalities are taking a wait-and-see approach. Elias, who advises Winnipeg's environmental committee, said that while Winnipeg has yet to endorse any plug-in laws, he suspects it would be "amenable" to the idea.

But he cautioned the quicker cities prepare themselves for PHEVs, the more they stand to gain from them. "Electrification is going to be the answer, we're pretty convinced of that."

By: Mike Barber

Source: [www.winnipegfreepress.com](http://www.winnipegfreepress.com)

## ***International Interest***

### **ECN Policy Studies Publications**

ECN Policy Studies has contributed to various recent publications that may be of interest to you:

Differentiation in the CDM: options and impacts (June 2009, in collaboration with the Institute for Environmental Studies IVM). Contact: Stefan Bakker

<http://www.pbl.nl/en/publications/2009/Differentiation-in-the-CDM-options-and-impacts.html>

Sharing global CO2 emission reductions among one billion high emitters (PNAS Early Edition, July 6th, 2009, with Princeton University, Harvard, FEEM) Contact: Heleen de Coninck. More information and the article can be found at

<http://www.ecn.nl/en/news/item/article/310/1/> and  
<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2009/07/02/0905232106.abstract>

Oil prices and climate change mitigation (May 2009, in collaboration with the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, PBL) Contact: Stefan Bakker.

Download the publication from <http://www.ecn.nl/publications/default.aspx?nr=ECN-B--09-008>

Other publications and presentations on technology, finance and carbon markets can be found at <http://www.ecn.nl/en/ps/research-programme/international-climate-policy/>

## **Business and Career Opportunities**

### ***Local***

#### **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](mailto:Daniel@dlfconsulting.ca).

[www.dlfconsulting.ca](http://www.dlfconsulting.ca)

## ***National***

### **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 – Nutrient Loadings to Surface Water – Transboundary/Interjurisdictional Watersheds and Basins and Best Management Practices**

CCME is now accepting proposals for the following contract opportunity:

Project 477-2010 – Nutrient Loadings to Surface Water -  
Transboundary/Interjurisdictional Watersheds and Basins and Best Management  
Practices. Proposals will be accepted until Monday July 27, 2009, 3:00 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>

## **ABEX Award Nominations are open!**

The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce is now receiving nominations for the ABEX Awards, which cover 14 areas of potential excellence. Many SEIMA members could qualify under any one of several categories. Get your nomination in by July 31st and enjoy the boost in profile that your business will enjoy!

Link to the following web page for details:

<http://www.saskchamber.com/default.aspx?page=30>

## **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](http://www.connectusacanada.com)

## **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](http://www.iisd.org/natres/water/pwps.asp)

## ***National***

### **Climate Change: Legislation, Regulation & Emissions Reporting**

Sept 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](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"

## **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](#)

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](mailto:info@cwma.bc.ca)

## **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](http://www.globe2010.com).

### ***International***

#### **Renewable Energy India 2009 Expo**

August 10 – 12, 2009  
Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

The 3rd edition of Renewable Energy India 2009 Expo - South Asia's largest event on Clean 'n' Green Energy at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi during 10-12 August 2009, will provide an invaluable opportunity for delegates/ visitors to witness the latest trends and developments in the global renewable energy markets.

The 3rd REI 2009 Expo is a unique international business platform, with over 300 exhibitors, 160 conference speakers, 2,000 delegates and 15,000 trade visitors expected from 30 countries.

The 3-day REI 2009 international exhibition and conference has shown exceptional growth since the last edition, covering issues on an expanded format to include Solar, Wind, Hydro, Bio energy (Bio mass and Bio fuels), Energy Efficiency, Cogeneration and Geothermal energy sectors. The event will showcase global entrepreneurship and innovation, with discussions providing delegates insights on emerging opportunities within the Indian marketplace.

Please [click here](#) for the detailed conference programme.

## **2009 North American Biochar Conference**

August 9 – 12, 2009

The 2009 North American Biochar Conference will be the first major biochar conference held in the United States. The keynote speakers for the conference will be U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and Dr. Susan Solomon, Senior Scientist, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The Center for Energy and Environmental Security (CEES) at the University of Colorado at Boulder Wolf is the lead sponsor and organizer of the conference. The conference is co-sponsored by the International Biochar Initiative (IBI). Scheduled to run from August 9 to 12, 2009, the conference is designed to advance our understanding of the policy, business, scientific, and technical opportunities and issues implicated by the large-scale usage of biochar as both a sequestration agent and soil amendment.

In addition to daily sessions on the science of biochar, the conference will also have a strong focus on the policy and economic dimensions of biochar.

In light of the momentum for biochar gained at the 2008 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change meeting in Poznan (COP-14), as well as the many changes in energy and agricultural policies heralded by the Obama administration, we view the policy component as critical to advancing biochar as a viable near-term solution to climate change-both domestically and internationally. Plenary sessions in the policy track will occur each day of the conference, enabling soil scientists, policymakers, policy analysts, engineers, biochar producers and users, and students to collectively examine key policy issues ranging from the design implications of cap-and-trade systems to methodologies for verifying emission reductions from biochar application.

Conference papers will be published in the *Annals of Environmental Science*, a peer-reviewed, open-access international journal for the environmental sciences.

Confirmed Keynote Speakers:

- . Tom Vilsack, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Washington D.C.
- . Dr. Susan Solomon, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Online registration is available at [http://cees.colorado.edu/ibi\\_2009.html](http://cees.colorado.edu/ibi_2009.html).

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:wcc3@wmo.int) or visit our website at [www.wmo.int/wcc3](http://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) < <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](mailto:angela@catie.ac.cr) until July 31th 2009.

### **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](http://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>>