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MEIA News

Manitoba Sector Training Network

John Fjedsted, Executive Director of the MEIA will be sitting on the Board of the Manitoba Sector Training Network (MSTN), of which MEIA is a member sector.

The Manitoba Sector Training Network creates synergies between sectors and cross sectoral initiatives. Effective collaborative projects between member sectors will enrich the training and development needs of Manitoba businesses and mobilize them for continued advancement.

Discover the New Fort Whyte

Date: October 14, 2008
Location: Alloway Reception Centre
Fort Whyte Alive
1961 McCreary Road

Speaker: Bill Elliott, President and CEO, FortWhyte Alive
Come and see the “new FortWhyte” ! Bill Elliott, President and CEO of FortWhyte Alive will speak to the exciting new \$4M expansion in the areas of water treatment, land, facilities and programs. Following breakfast, a brief tour of the Waste Water Treatment Facility and the new Cold Climate Solar Greenhouse will be provided. For a sneak preview of these topics, please visit www.fortwhyte.org .

Registration: 7:30 a.m.
Breakfast: 8:00 a.m.
Presentation: 8:30 a.m.
Tour: 9:00 a.m.

Registration Fee: \$40.00 for Members / \$50.00 for non-Members
Register [Here](#)

Environmental Risk Management

Date: Thursday, October 23, 2008
Time: 12:00 – 4:00 pm
Location: ALS Laboratories, Unit 12, 1329 Niakwa Road East

A seminar on Environmental Risk Management and how it affects your company and you personally. Speakers will address the topics of Due Diligence, Safety, Health and Environment, and Tools to assist you.

The agenda will include:

- Introduction to Environmental Risk Management
 - LeeAnn Shewchuk, Dillon Consulting
- Due Dilligence
 - John Stefaniuk, Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP
- Upfront Risk Management
 - Alan Phillipson, Chemical S.H. & E Education
- Tools to assist you
 - Speaker to be confirmed

Registration: \$75.00 +gst – Members
\$100.00 +gst – non-Members

The afternoon will begin with lunch.

Please see the website for more information. Space is limited.

Register [here](#)

Opening Doors Parent Forum 2008

Saturday, November 1, 2008

As many of you know, MEIA is one of the sectors within the Manitoba Sector Training Network. MSTN is going to be hosting their 2nd annual Opening Doors forum at Tech Voc High School on Saturday, November 1st, 2008. The intent is to provide information on career opportunities for parents of young Manitobans that will soon be making career choices. The organizers are hoping to attract about 400 people.

The MEIA will be participating by hosting an information booth. If you would like to have the MEIA provide career information about your company, we would be happy to display your company literature or better yet, you are welcome to take part by assisting staff at the MEIA booth. Please forward material to us by October 24th.

For further information, please contact us at 783-7090 or admin@meia.mb.ca

Emerging Issues

"Energy and Water Management - The Basics of Sustainability"

Thursday, November 27, 2008
Hotel Fort Garry - 222 Broadway
8:00 to 4:15 p.m.

Impact of Bill 15	Water
Green House Gas	Corporate Social Responsibility (C.S.R.)

Wine and Cheese Reception
4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Registration Fee:

BEFORE Friday, October 17, 2008

MEMBERS: \$200 + GST

non-MEMBERS: \$275 +GST

AFTER October 17, 2008

MEMBERS: \$250 + GST

non-MEMBERS: \$325 + GST

Register [here](#)

Sponsorship opportunities are attached [here](#).

Please call the MEIA office at 783-7090 with inquiries.

Bioremediation - Coming to a Theater Near You!

Prepare to mark your calendar, a team of MEIA volunteers and staff are putting together a full days event currently scheduled around February of 2009 dedicated to the world of bioremediation. The day will provide overviews covering everything from:

What's out there.

Case studies.

The regulators perspective, CCME, Provincial and Federal overviews.

Contaminated or merely impacted what does it mean to you.

Working in the north - issues with permafrost conditions.

Analytical challenges - not always what it seems.

Technologies, techniques and perhaps tricks of the trade.

This is merely a small overview of the program being pulled together for you, our membership, stay tuned for the details, block out February in your calendars, will be truly exciting.....see you there!

Emergency First Aid with CPR Level A

Courses provided upon request.

See MEIA website for additional information

[Register Here](#)

General News

Local Interest

Green Space to Replace Brandon Brownfield Under Province's \$39-Million Greening Initiative

Former Scrap Metal Site To Be Transformed With \$1.5-million Investment

October 2, 2008

An abandoned scrap-metal and bulk fuel-storage site is being transformed into green space in Brandon as a result of a \$1.5-million provincial investment, Conservation Minister Stan Struthers announced here today.

"Manitoba is a world-class climate change leader and this \$39-million greening initiative is investing in Manitoba's future as a green and growing province," Struthers said. "This Manitoba government is moving forward with our commitment to protect the health of Manitobans and manage environmental risks caused by soil and groundwater contamination."

The greening initiative, called the Environmental Remediation program, is part of a \$165-million plan to address government-owned sites and abandoned or orphaned sites.

The total cost of the Brandon site remediation is approximately \$3 million and will be shared equally with the city.

Contaminants will be contained on-site in a manner that will eliminate direct exposure to people and the environment. The property was previously occupied by Brandon Scrap Iron and Metal Ltd. and Imperial Oil Ltd.

The site is located on First Street between Pacific and Rosser avenues. A human health risk assessment concluded there is no threat to neighbouring residential properties.

While most of the site will be improved as green space, a section of the site along First Street has been identified for future commercial development. Work to green the site will begin this fall.

Source: www.gov.mb.ca

Province Unveils New Research Funding to Cut Emissions, Boost Green Farm Economy

October 1, 2008

The province is investing more than \$1 million to fund new research aimed at reducing greenhouse-gas emissions generated by Manitoba's agricultural sector, Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives Minister Rosann Wowchuk announced today.

"Manitoba farmers are responsible stewards of the land and today's funding will lead to new tools to help reduce the environmental footprint of agricultural production," Wowchuk said. "New research leads to innovation and expanded opportunities in the growing green farm economy."

Environment Canada data shows that agricultural activities produce 30 per cent of the province's greenhouse-gas emissions. More than 40 per cent of agricultural emissions come from agricultural soils, much of it from the application of nitrogen-based fertilizers.

The minister said new research would be aimed at practical tools to reduce emissions from the agriculture sector, noting that effective ecologically-minded farm practices often reduce energy inputs, saving producers money.

Wowchuk has committed the first funding block of \$150,000 to five research projects to be conducted at the National Centre for Livestock and the Environment. The initial round of funded projects include:

- studying the role of grasslands in mitigating greenhouse-gas emissions and their ability to provide other benefits such as reduced water erosion,
- examining changes in greenhouse-gas emissions for annual crop land that is converted to forage crops and vice-versa,
- researching the impact an animal's diet will have on greenhouse-gas emissions from manure, and
- two projects that will examine carbon emissions of various cropping systems and the economics of biological nitrogen production.

Wowchuk also announced the appointment of Dr. Esther Salvano as the province's first-ever manager of climate change. Salvano will co-ordinate research work at the province's Agri-Environment Knowledge Centre. Salvano will implement focus on Manitoba's priorities agri-environmental priorities including climate-change adaptation, ecological goods and services, and environmental resource economics, which studies the reasons behind environmental decisions and policies made by individuals, companies and governments.

"We are committed to investing in sustainable agricultural in Manitoba," Wowchuk said. "We've seen significant success in green agricultural initiatives across the province and sound research will continue to guide the important work of development long-term solutions to climate change."

Source: www.gov.mb.ca

New Conservation District Begins Work in the Interlake Area

October 3, 2008

The new West Interlake Watershed Conservation District is being launched with a \$150,000 provincial startup grant, Water Stewardship Minister Christine Melnick announced at the organization's new office here today.

"We are pleased to work closely with local groups such as this new conservation district who show insight and a commitment to deliver more effective land and water management," said Melnick. "The new West Interlake Conservation District will help ensure a co-ordinated, long-term planning approach to water resources for people who live between Manitoba's two largest bodies of water, Lake Manitoba and Lake Winnipeg."

The West Interlake Conservation District is located along the eastern shores of Lake Manitoba and has six partners including the rural municipalities of Armstrong, Coldwell, Eriksdale, Siglunes, St. Laurent and Woodlands.

“Our new conservation district and the six rural municipalities are looking forward to starting this partnership with the province to bring an effective approach to watershed planning that will enhance the quality of life for all area residents,” said Doug Oliver, chair of the West Interlake Watershed Conservation District.

Approximately 6,500 people live within the boundaries of the conservation district, which covers about 4,500 square kilometres.

“Local stakeholders are the key to success in the watershed planning process,” said the minister. “Their work is paramount as it assists us in better understanding complex water issues and provides options for improved use and management of the resources.”

With the formation of this newest conservation district, the total number of municipalities participating in the program has risen to 148, almost a 90 per cent increase. The conservation district program now covers 85 per cent of municipal Manitoba.

Overall, Manitoba Water Stewardship funding for the program has increased by more than 100 per cent to \$5.3 million since 1999.

Information on the role of conservation districts is available at www.gov.mb.ca/waterstewardship

Source: www.gov.mb.ca

Province Supports \$20-Million Hemp Plant with \$4 Million in Grants, Loans

September 26, 2008

Hemp grown and processed in Manitoba is one step closer to insulating homes around the world, with \$4 million in provincial loans and grants to kick-start the development of a world-class hemp facility, Competitiveness, Training and Trade Minister Andrew Swan and Agriculture Minister Rosann Wowchuk announced today.

The state-of-the-art facility will create up to 22 jobs in the Dauphin-Parkland region and manufacture and market products made from industrial hemp, which is currently

being grown in the area. Once operational, it will turn 23,500 metric tonnes of hemp straw into home insulation and animal bedding every year. The Parkland Biofibre facility will be one of a handful of industrial hemp processing plants in the world.

“We’re working with local entrepreneurs to build upon our competitive advantages and support Manitoba’s new bio-economy,” said Swan.

“This is a unique opportunity for the province to be at the forefront of biofibre processing and trade,” said Conservation Minister Stan Struthers, speaking at the event today.

The provincial government will be providing Parkland Biofibre with a \$3 million Manitoba Industrial Opportunities Program (MIOP) loan to help build a \$20-million hemp-processing facility in the Dauphin Industrial Park. An additional \$1 million capital grant is being provided from Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiative’s Rural Economic Development Initiatives (REDI) program to support related project expenses. All provincial funds are contingent on the company securing additional investment from other public and private sources.

“We are building on Manitoba’s agricultural strengths to create new opportunities for rural investment and development,” said Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives Minister Rosann Wowchuk. “Hemp has been grown successfully in Manitoba for many years and will now be locally developed into new value-added products.”

“Manitoba is a great place to do business with its strategic location, competitive taxes and low cost of doing business,” said Joe Federowich, board chair of Parkland Industrial Hemp Growers/ Parkland Bio Fibre. “In addition to providing high-wage, high-skilled jobs, this plant will keep Manitoba competitive in the growing hemp industry.”

Once all necessary funding agreements are in place, the design and construction process is expected to take 24 months.

Hemp is a natural fibre product from the Cannabis sativa plant and has been used for thousands of years for rope, canvas, paper, clothing and industrial products. It is an environmentally friendly choice for consumers because it is a renewable resource and creates very little waste. Nearly all parts of the hemp plant, including the fibre, seed and grain, can be used.

Source: www.gov.mb.ca

E-waste Collection Double Last Year's

Tons of old electronics brought to 28 depots

October 5, 2008

Manitobans dropped off close to 700,000 kilograms of old computers, unwanted televisions and other e-waste at province-wide depots this summer -- double the amount of electronic trash collected last year.

The province's 28 depots closed at the end of September, and so far they've tallied 477,000 kg of e-waste.

Green Manitoba waste reduction program manager Jim Ferguson said he expects to add more than 200,000 kg more e-waste to the final amount when all depot counts come in, compared to about 310,000 kg last year.

"Certainly, awareness and interest by the public to ensure that these products are managed properly is on the increase throughout the province," he said. The program included 23 one-day collection events as well as drop-offs in 22 communities.

Forty-two semi-trailer loads of waste have been sent to SIMS Recycling Solutions in Brampton, Ont., and Ferguson expects close to 20 more semi-loads to handle all the waste. All processing happens in North America, he said.

Staff at Syrotech Industries packed up yet another trailer at the drop-off depot Friday, surrounded by shrink-wrapped towers of televisions, computer monitors and other electronics.

Old TVs make up the bulk of the waste, said employee Rose Sagness, like the massive, 196-pound Sony model sitting at the bottom of a pile. Microwaves, monitors, printers and computers are next on the list, and many in the Syrotech lot looked relatively new.

"After three months, they're out of date," said Sagness.

The company saves some drop-off items for movie crews that occasionally come by for period pieces, like an old wooden General Electric radio that appeared in this year's round-up.

The free e-waste round-up ran from May 1 to Sept. 30.

Last year, the provincial government announced plans for a stewardship program to handle e-waste, which could include levies on new electronics.

The province hoped to have the program in place by this fall, but a spokesperson said plans are still in the works, and would not provide information on the program's status this week.

Source: www.winnipegfreepress.com

Alternative-fuel Vehicles Start to Generate Buzz

October 4, 2008

IT packs an 18 horsepower electric motor, lithium ion batteries and a built-in charger that plugs into any 110- or 220-volt outlet.

But most people who see the all-electric ATV just want to take it for a spin. "Everybody wants to drive it," laughed University of Manitoba graduate Adam Chevrefils, who designed the battery-powered quad.

Chevrefils showed off his master's project Friday at a conference to mark the National Alternative Fuel Vehicle Day Odyssey, an event aimed at promoting alternative fuels and new vehicle technologies.

The electric ATV joined a biodiesel-fueled school bus and a plug-in hybrid car on the trade show floor. Organizer Ajaleigh Williams said electric hybrid models were nowhere to be seen at Winnipeg's first Odyssey Day in 2002.

"Vehicle technologies have come a long way since 2002," said Williams, the Winnipeg chapter co-ordinator for the Red River Valley Clean Cities Coalition. Chevrefils designed the Polaris ATV for his masters' project, spending roughly \$25,000 on hardware.

"I stripped it to the frame and electrified it from scratch," he said.

The ATV can travel 30 to 40 kilometres before it needs charging, and compared to a standard quad, the noise level is more buzz than roar.

Friday's conference included talks on active transportation in Winnipeg, electric vehicles and biofuels.

A trio of panelists argued biofuels aren't to blame for what's been described as a global food crisis. They laid the blame instead on increased meat consumption and high energy costs, among other factors.

lindsey.wiebe@freepress.mb.ca

Source: www.winnipegfreepress.com

New Program Cleans the Environment While Helping Manitobans with Kidney Disease

October 7, 2008

The Manitoba government and the Kidney Foundation of Canada - Manitoba Branch have launched a free Home Appliance Retirement Program that will help fight kidney disease and protect the environment, Science, Technology, Energy and Mines Minister Jim Rondeau announced today.

"The program is designed to accomplish two things - protect the environment and at the same time help in the fight against kidney disease," said Rondeau. "Two benefits from a single program create a double-win situation for all Manitobans and especially people suffering with kidney disease."

"This is a very timely program for the Kidney Foundation as Manitoba has the highest per capita rate of kidney disease in the country," said Val Dunphy, executive director of the Kidney Foundation's Manitoba Branch. "Kidney disease is growing at an alarming rate and the Kidney Foundation needs all the support it can get - both from the government and the public."

Through the Home Appliance Retirement Program (HARP), Winnipeggers can permanently retire their unwanted, energy inefficient home appliances in a convenient and environmentally safe manner by simply calling the HARP Hotline at 257-1212.

Any major appliance - washers, dryers, fridges, stoves, even water heaters - qualifies for free pickup within Winnipeg. Once arrangements have been made, a representative of the Kidney Foundation will pick up the appliance and safely recycle it free of charge.

Money raised through HARP is used to assist Manitobans with kidney disease and to fund kidney disease and organ transplant research.

HARP is supported by the province's Green Manitoba initiative. Green Manitoba is a provincial agency that develops and implements key programs that foster

environmental innovation and community development, as outlined in the provincial government's Green and Growing strategy document. The agency promotes community-based approaches to energy efficiency, water conservation and waste minimization.

HARP is the second environmentally friendly fundraising program managed by the Kidney Foundation; it also operates the successful Kidney Car donation program.

More information on HARP is available from the Kidney Foundation of Canada - Manitoba Branch at 204-989-0808.

National Interest

Environmental Quality Guidelines Now Online

September 29, 2008

Canadian Environmental Quality Guidelines are now available on line. These guidelines provide nationally endorsed science based goals for the quality of atmospheric, aquatic, and terrestrial ecosystems.

These Guidelines are defined as numerical concentrations or narrative statements that are recommended as levels that should result in negligible risk to biota, their functions, or any interactions that are integral to sustaining the health of ecosystems and the designated resource uses they support.

Although the Guidelines are nationally endorsed, provincial and territorial jurisdictions may have or may develop their own science-based environmental assessment tools (e.g., criteria, guidelines, objectives and standards), which may be implemented within their respective jurisdictions. In many cases, the Guidelines form the scientific basis upon which further site-specific criteria, guidelines, objectives or standards are developed within the various jurisdictions.

Users will find chemical-specific guideline fact sheets that summarize the key scientific information and rationale for each substance, detailed summary tables of recommended guidelines for the different media and resource uses, and the protocols used in developing the guidelines, along with their associated implementation guidance.

Spreadsheet calculators for indices of Water Quality, Soil Quality and Sediment Quality are also included.

Canadian Environmental Quality Guidelines provide:

National benchmarks to assess potential or actual impairment of socially relevant resource uses

The scientific basis for the development of site-specific criteria, guidelines, objectives or standards indicators for state-of-the-environment reporting

Science-based goals or performance indicators for regional, national, or international management strategies for toxic substances

Interim management objectives for persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic substances to track progress toward their virtual elimination

Scientific tools for assessing risks associated with existing concentrations of persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic substances in the ambient environment

Indicators of ecotoxicologically relevant concentrations of persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic substances for the purpose of improving analytical detection and quantification capabilities

Tools to evaluate the effectiveness of point-source controls

The scientific basis for environmental regulations scientific benchmarks or targets in the assessment and remediation of contaminated sites

Science-based assessments and tools for consideration in the development of Canada-wide standards under the Canada-wide Accord on Environmental Harmonization

Available titles include:

[Community Water Supplies](#)

[Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality](#)

[Canadian National Ambient Air Quality Objectives: Process and Status](#)

[Recreational Water Quality Guidelines and Aesthetics](#)

[Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Aquatic Life](#)

[Guidance on the Site-Specific Application of Water Quality Guidelines in Canada](#)

[Canadian Water Quality Guidelines for Protection of Agricultural Water Uses](#)

[Canadian Sediment Quality Guidelines for Protection of Aquatic Life](#)

[Canadian Soil Quality Guidelines for Protection of Environmental and Human Health](#)

[Canadian Tissue Residue Guidelines for Protection of Wildlife Consumers of Aquatic Biota](#)

To view all current guidelines for air, water, soil, sediment and tissue residue go to "[CEQG Online](#)". New guidelines when approved will be posted to this site.

Source: Canadian Council of Ministers of Environment.

Source: www.globe-net.ca

Wrestling With E-Waste

October 6, 2008

Consumers are an ephemeral bunch. They love their television sets, cell phones, computers, MP3 players and any other electronic equipment that enriches their daily lives. Yet they throw them away with such abandon that 50 million tons ends up discarded every year around the world, according to the United Nations Environment Programme.

Most of this electronic waste (e-waste) ends up in landfills where its toxic substances leach into the surrounding environment. Some television monitors, for instance, contain up to four pounds of lead, a toxin that can cause brain damage in children. Other toxic metals found in computer processing units, such as lithium, cause health defects as well.

Many developing countries import this e-waste from wealthier nations. They sell the second-hand electronic devices on local markets to consumers eager to partake in the world's high tech boom. They also recycle them for their parts. In countries like China, Pakistan, India and Ghana, children earn a living by scavenging through the glass, metals and plastics of old computers. They melt electrical cords to extract copper or melt computer capacitors for their small quantity of gold. In the process children breathe dioxin and other toxin gases.

To counter this threat to human health, a number of companies are improving the way they manufacture their products. Computer maker [Dell](#), for instance, announced that all of its new laptop displays will be fitted with light-emitting diode (LED) by September 2009. These monitors will be mercury-free and highly recyclable. Electronics giant [Sony](#) has partnered with Global Electric Electronic Processing (GEEP) to set up recycling collection sites across Canada. Anyone can drop off their unwanted Sony products for free. Retail stores will even take all used camcorders, cameras or cordless phones so that this e-waste is recycled in a "responsible manner," according to the company. [Nokia](#) does the same through 5,000 collection points in 85 countries. A policy that has garnered high praise from Greenpeace which ranks companies its annual [Guide to Greener Electronics](#). Non-manufacturing companies are getting into the ball game as well. Teck Cominco, a Vancouver-based mining giant, operates an e-waste program. "Electronic waste is a critical society problem and we have the ability to recycle the material," says Carol Vanelli Worosz, communications manager for the company's operations at Trail, British Columbia. Since 2006 the company has recycled 10,000 metric tons of electronic waste.

And some firms in the developing world profit from recycling responsibly at home. Texas-based [TechTurn](#) refurbishes electronic waste from companies and sells the revamped versions to schools, non-profits and poor countries. With \$40 million in

sales under its belt in 2007, the company plans to open plants in Illinois, Nevada, Washington and New Jersey.

Trash is no longer a dirty word. It is a financial asset drawing the interests of venture capitalists. The broad category of "recycling and waste", according to [Business Week](#), drew \$622 million in investment in 2007, compared with \$245 million in 2006 and just \$20 million in 2001. Recyclers are noticing that vast amounts of money can be made from sifting through rubbish, processing the material and selling it to other companies.

Policies designed to limit damage caused by electronic equipment have been in place for several years, especially in the European Union. North America is now getting onto the bandwagon. British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia and Ontario apply levies to pay for the proper recycling and disposal of manufactured electronics. Some legislatures in the United States have also stepped in with their own laws.

In practice, though, making sure that manufacturers apply the rules is not easy for law enforcement officials. In the United States, for instance, the country's Environmental Protection Agency has been found unwilling to stop exports of used electronics to developed countries. Congressional investigators found that the agency did not even have a plan or timetable to enforce the laws. This at a time when digital broadcast norms that come into effect in 2009 will require millions of consumers to throw away their unworkable television sets into landfills.

Manufacturers and governments are therefore on the right track when it comes to combating electronic waste. They realize they are part of the problem and have addressed ways to fix it. Their efforts, however, need to be done quickly. The world's endless appetite for consumer goods cannot go on forever without harming the planet irrevocably.

Source: www.globe-net.ca

International Interest

ILO/UNEP Release Green Jobs: Towards Decent Work in a Sustainable, Low-Carbon World

September 25, 2008

The International Labor Organization (ILO), UN Environment Programme (UNEP), International Trade Union Confederation and the International Organization of Employers have released the first comprehensive study on the emergence of a “green economy” and its impact on the world of work.

The report, Green Jobs: Towards Decent Work in a Sustainable, Low-Carbon World, examines how green jobs are changing patterns of employment as a result of measures to tackle climate change and to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. The report finds that the impacts of climate change, which are already being felt, will continue to have negative effects on workers, especially those whose livelihoods depend on agriculture and tourism. The report recommends taking urgent action to tackle climate change as well as to cope with its effects and to design such action so as to generate decent jobs. [[The Publication](#)] [[ILO Press Release](#)]

Source: www.Climate-L.Org

Can't See the Forest for the Trees - Then Listen to the Trees

October 6, 2008

Scientists at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have literally tapped into the tiny electrical current carried in trees and created a company, Voltree, to capitalize on it as a power source.

People have known about this phenomenon for many years and have tried to explain it by various exotic mechanisms, said Andreas Mershin, a postdoctoral researcher at MIT who is involved in the research. "But the cause of it is a simple pH difference between the tree and the soil," said Chris Love, a senior in chemistry at MIT and Vice President of Voltree.

Working with the U.S. Forest Service, Voltree has created cheap sensors that use tree power to monitor temperature and humidity conditions inside forests. The goal is to give forest managers and firefighters [better tools](#) to predict and monitor [fires](#). Mershin and Love were initially skeptical of tree power but investigated it anyway. To debunk alternative explanations for the observed electrical charges, Mershin and Love put a potted, four-foot-tall ficus tree into MIT's copper Faraday cage (which blocks out external static electrical fields), stuck platinum electrodes into the soil and into the tree's tissue, and turned off the lights.

Their instruments recorded a slight [electrical charge](#).

To prove their own theory, that the charge was generated by the pH difference between the tree and the soil, the scientists created a range of soil pHs, from an acidic two to a basic 12, by adding hydrochloric acid and potassium hydroxide. For each unit change in pH, the electrical current changed by 59 millivolts. The greater the difference between the soil pH and the tree's pH, the greater the energy, as Mershin and Love predicted.

Still, it's not much of a current. The batteries that likely power your TV remote are about 1.5 volts. A tree living in harsh soil conditions can generate a few hundred millivolts at best.

But through some proprietary hardware and software tricks, Love and his colleagues amplified that tiny tree current up to 2.4 volts, enough energy to power small sensors. But initially, they didn't know what kind of sensors they should power. "We had a solution that was looking for a problem," said Mershin.

After considering several possibilities, the team, now incorporated as Voltree, created a cheap, tree-powered sensor that would monitor temperature and humidity inside a forest and approached Tory Henderson of the U.S. Forest Service at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, Idaho.

Each sensor package should last approximately 15 years, said Love, and would be placed in a grid with sensors spaced about 65 feet apart. Depending on the programming, data would bounce from one sensor to another until it reached a more permanent weather station, which would send the data to NIFC.

What they learn also could raise the possibility of using trees as silent sentinels along the nation's borders to detect potential threats such as smuggled radioactive materials.

Testing of the wireless sensor network, which is being developed by Voltree Power (<http://voltreepower.com>), is slated to begin in the spring on a 10-acre plot of land provided by the Forest Service.

According to Love, who with Mershin has a financial interest in Voltree, the bioenergy harvester battery charger module and sensors are ready. "We expect that we'll need to instrument four trees per acre," he said, noting that the system is designed for easy installation by unskilled workers. "Right now we're finalizing exactly how the wireless sensor network will be configured to use the minimum amount of power," he concluded. The original experiments were funded by MagCap Engineering, LLC, through MIT's Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program.

Source: [Massachusetts Institute of Technology](#) .

Source: www.globe-net.ca

UN Initiative Allows Youth to Look ‘Cool’ While Saving the Planet

October 1, 2008

An updated version of an initiative by two United Nations agencies, seeking to reverse current “throw-away” trends by reducing waste from discarded products such as mobile phones and outdated fashion, allows youth to stay on top of trends while also taking part in the fight against climate change.

Produced by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the YouthXchange Training Kit seeks to promote sustainable consumption among youth worldwide.

This year’s kit, revised from the previous 2002 version, includes a new chapter on how to balance aspirations of dressing fashionably while being aware of the impact of consumption on global warming.

Young people often try to establish their identities and seek social inclusion through what they purchase, but this exacerbates problems such as the depletion of the ozone layer.

YouthXchange, one of UNEP’s most important youth sustainable consumption-related activities, empowers young people “to make different choices in their daily lives and be actors of change,” said Gabriela Monteiro, one of the agency’s youth advisers.

UNEP Executive Director Achim Steiner voiced hope that through their purchasing patterns, youth can influence the wider world and back the successor pact to the Kyoto Protocol, whose first commitment period ends in 2012, expected to be concluded in Copenhagen, Denmark, in December next year.

“Young people in developed and rapidly developing economies can play a massive part in fighting climate change while being cool and keeping the planet cool, too,” he [said](#).

The scheme, translated and adapted into 19 languages, also discusses the UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development from 2005-2014.

“Buying a product, whatever it is, is never a neutral act for the environment,” said UNESCO Director-General Koïchiro Matsuura. “Its production, its use and the management of the waste it generates, all [have an] impact – to a greater or lesser degree – on our planet.”

Source: www.Climate-L.Org

Business and Career Opportunities

Local

2008 Canada-India Call for Proposals for R&D Collaborations and Partnership Development Activities

Under the Canada-India Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation, the two governments have agreed to foster joint activities aimed at generating new or expanded research and technology-based partnerships between the two countries (termed as Partnership Development Activities, PDA).

1. Implementation Organizations

This Canada-India Call for Proposal is implemented on the Indian side by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India and on the Canadian side by ISTPCanada, a non-governmental organization selected by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade to deliver elements of the International Science and Technology Partnerships Program.

2. Nature of Activities

These Partnership Development Activities may be in the form of scientific seminars, conferences, symposia and workshops, as well as other activities which involve exchanges amongst scientists, technical experts and academics.

The following biotechnology priority areas have been identified, however, applications in other biotechnology areas will also be considered:

- Convergent Medical Technologies
- Application to Clean Technologies
- Bio-Pharma and Health

3. Eligibility

Canadian Applicants

Researchers and managers representing Canadian companies, academic institutions, research hospitals, other institutes or associations which operate and are headquartered in Canada are eligible applicants. Subsidiaries of firms headquartered and owned outside Canada are normally not eligible for support. However, recognizing that the overriding consideration is "benefit to Canada", an exception can occur if ISTP Canada is satisfied that clear economic benefit will accrue to Canada.

Each Implementing Organization (ISTPCanada and DBT) will limit its contribution to CDN\$25,000 or equivalent Indian Rupees per Activity. In Canada, participants can receive up to 50% of the eligible costs of their component. For Indian participants,

DBT in some cases may provide 100% of the eligible costs only to public funded institutions.

For Canadian Applicants

ISTPCanada provides assistance by contributing up to 50% of eligible expenses.

Eligible expenses include:

- Expenses for organizing the Activity, e.g. venue and equipment rental, and related expenses
- Travel (e.g. airfare, local transportation, etc.), accommodation, meals, incidentals and other non-research expenses (such as translation services, photocopies, or hospitality). Expenses for travel, accommodations, meals and incidentals are as per [Treasury Board of Canada Guidelines](#).
- Travel and local stay expenses of Canadian participants
- Hospitality cost for the Indian participants in Canada related to the PDA, which includes accommodation, local travel for the activity, and food.

For detailed information on the Call for Proposals, please visit our website at:

www.istpcanada.ca

You are encouraged to submit an EOI as early as possible to enable us to provide a response to you as quickly as possible regarding the submission of a full proposal.

For more information on the call or other programs with India, please visit our website at

www.istpcanada.ca

or contact:

Bharat Rudra

Country Manager for India

International S&T Partnerships Canada

371A Richmond Road, Suite 4, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 0E7 Canada

Tel: 613-729-3069, ext 224

Fax: 613-729-3061

BharatRudra@istpcanada.ca

Hydro-geological Risk Assessment

Requests for Proposals

Comprehensive hydro-geological and contamination risk assessment of the potable water supply well and condition assessment of the on site storage lagoon at the Health Canada Percy E. Moore Memorial Hospital Complex, Hodgson, Manitoba.

Introduction

Health Canada requires the services and technical expertise of a private sector company to complete a condition assessment of the on site storage lagoon, including an integrity assessment of the lagoon berm and base, a comprehensive hydrogeological assessment of the potable water supply well, including an assessment of well contamination risks, and condition assessments of selected buried reaction vessels and process piping to ensure that a holistic, sustainable and innovative solution is found for managing both potable water and wastewater resources at Percy E. Moore Memorial Hospital Complex (PMH), Hodgson, Manitoba.

Estimated Value

The total value of any contract resulting from this RFP shall not exceed \$120,000.00, including travel and living expenses (if applicable), other expenses and all applicable taxes.

Objectives of the Requirement

The purpose of this document is to solicit proposals and to establish the Terms of Reference for completing a condition assessment of the on site storage lagoon, including an integrity assessment of the lagoon berm and base, a comprehensive hydrogeological assessment of the potable water supply well, including an assessment of contamination risks, and condition assessments of selected buried reaction vessels and process piping at PMH, Hodgson Manitoba. It is intended that these assessments will build on the findings and recommendations of previous studies, by addressing their limitations, to enable developing a sustainable, holistic and innovative solution for managing both potable water and wastewater resources at PMH.

Mandatory Requirements

Attention Bidders: Write beside each of the criteria the relevant page number(s) from your proposal which addresses the requirement identified in the criteria.

Criteria	Page #	Yes	No
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M1. The Project Manager must demonstrate experience in managing at least three (3) groundwater assessment projects of similar nature as the proposed work (i.e. well vulnerability, well contamination risk, physical and contaminant hydrogeology, etc.) in the past 5 years by providing a summary of their roles and responsibilities for each of the projects, and a summary of scope, objectives and outcomes for each of the projects. Project start and completion dates should be clearly identified.

M2. The Project Manager and Key Personnel must demonstrate experience in the

management and design of at least 3 projects in the past 5 years in which recommendations were developed for improving water and wastewater management systems at facilities in remote locations by providing a summary of their roles and responsibilities for each of the projects, and a summary of the scope, objectives and outcomes for each of the projects. Project start and completion dates should be clearly identified.

M3. Key Personnel must demonstrate experience in the management and design of at least 3 environmental site assessments in the past 5 years in which soil, groundwater, surface water and sediment sampling was completed by providing a summary of the Key Personnel's roles and responsibilities for each of the projects, and a summary of the scope, objectives and outcomes for each of the projects. Project start and completion dates should be clearly identified.

M4. Key Personnel must demonstrate experience in the management and design of at least three (3) projects in the past 5 years in which condition assessments and integrity investigations of lagoons, storage reservoirs, retention ponds, etc. were undertaken by providing a summary of the Key Personnel's roles and responsibilities for each of the projects, and a summary of the scope, objectives and outcomes for each of the projects. Project start and completion dates should be clearly identified.

M5. The bidder must prove that at least one team member, who will be working on-site during the field investigation is a professional geoscientist or equivalent with at least 12 months cumulative experience in performing ground water assessments of similar nature as the proposed work (i.e. well vulnerability, well contamination risk, physical and contaminant hydrogeology, etc.). The individual(s) meeting this mandatory requirement must be clearly identified, along with a summary of their experience. The summary of experience must include a list of representative projects that the individual(s) has/have completed, a brief description of their roles and responsibilities for each of the projects, and a summary of the scope, objectives and outcomes for each of the projects. Project start and completion dates should be clearly identified.

M6. The bidder must prove that at least one team member, who will be working on-site during the field investigation, has demonstrated at least 12 months cumulative experience in the past 5 years in performing geotechnical/integrity investigations pertaining to facultative lagoons, storage reservoirs, retention ponds, etc. The individual(s) meeting this mandatory requirement must be clearly identified, along with a summary of their experience. The summary of experience must include a list of representative projects that the individual(s) has/have completed, a brief description of their roles and responsibilities for each of the projects, and a summary of the scope, objectives and outcomes for each of the projects. Project start and completion dates should be clearly identified.

M7. The Project Manager and Key Personnel must prove that they are certified engineers and/or geoscientists, licensed by their professional organization(s) and entitled to practice in Canada.

M8. The bidder must provide proof in the form of a valid certificate(s) of accreditation that its proposed laboratory(s) is/are accredited for the analyses of ground and surface water quality, soil and sediment quality and wastewater quality (CAEAL; AIHA-IHLAP; or acceptable equivalents).

M9. The bidder must provide proof in the form of a valid certificate of insurance that it has Errors & Omissions Liability Insurance coverage.

Contact: ALL ENQUIRIES REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE DIRECTED IN WRITING TO: E-mail address: FNIHB_CCU_UCC_DGSPNI@hc-sc.gc.ca
Administrative Services Division Business Planning and Management Directorate
FIRST Nations and Inuit Health Branch Health Canada Tunney's Pasture Ottawa,
Ontario K1A 0K9 Address Locator: 1916D

Source: MERX . Reference: # 158027.

Deadline: October 15, 2008

National

Environmental Sampling of Surface Water for Contaminated Sites

Requests for Proposals

Preparation of guidance document for environmental sampling of surface water, sediment and biological tissues for the purpose of contaminated site characterization

All enquiries concerning this solicitation must be submitted in writing to the contracting authority named below as early as possible within the bidding period. Enquiries should be received by the contracting authority no later than five (5) working days prior to the bid closing date specified herein to allow sufficient time to provide a response.

Intellectual Property: The Crown has determined that any intellectual property arising from the performance of the Work under the Contract will vest in Canada.

Requirement: Environment Canada has a requirement for consulting and professional services. The contractor is required to develop guidance on sampling of surface water, sediment, and biological tissues for the purpose of contaminated site characterization. The goal is to provide Canadians with consistent sampling techniques, such that the data obtained will be representative and of known quality.

Background: The Guidance Manual on Sampling, Analysis, and Data Management for Contaminated Sites, published by Canadian Council of Ministers of the

Environment (CCME) in 1993, is one tool in providing a consistent national approach to sampling, analyzing, and data management for contaminated sites. The CCME Soil Quality Guidelines Task Group concluded that CCME (1993) is outdated and is in need of replacement. It was decided that the best avenue for CCME to continue providing national guidance on contaminated site characterization was to add guidance on surface water, sediment, and biological tissue sampling to existing draft federal guidance which currently lacks information on these three media.

Statement of Work: The sampling guidance must be based on the most scientifically defensible techniques, and provide a summary of key elements that should be performed, and reported, during site investigations. The guidance will not be prescriptive for every situation due to the nature of this work, but will provide common methodology and standard operating procedures for environmental sampling of typical sites in Canada. The chapters and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) will describe minimum requirements and best practices for sampling in support of characterization of contaminated sites. The document is not intended to be exhaustive, nor is it intended to be overly prescriptive.

Deliverables

Develop general environmental sampling guidance and SOPs for the purpose of contaminated site characterization for surface waters, sediment and biological tissues. Guidance should be designed to match the level of detail and format of existing draft federal guidance on contaminated site characterization.

Revise checklists present in the existing draft federal guidance to include key elements in surface water, sediment, and biological tissue site characterization information that should be present in environmental site assessment (ESA) reports. The purpose of the checklists are to assess the completeness of ESA reports and identify data gaps and deficiencies in the report and/or in the methods used to conduct the ESA.

The contractor will address comments and make appropriate revisions to drafts from two rounds of review and produce a final draft.

Travel: The contractor and project authority will meet, either via a face-to-face meeting or teleconference, within a week of the award of the contract to discuss and agree upon the work plan. The travel location is 200 Sacré Coeur, Gatineau, Quebec. The contractor will assume all travel costs incurred by the contractor for meetings.

Selection Criteria: For a proposal to be technically acceptable it must receive a score of 70% or better in the categories of the Evaluation Criteria identified in the Terms of Reference. Only technically acceptable proposals will be considered for final selection.

If no acceptable bids are received Environment Canada has the right to not award this contract.

Project Budget" Environment Canada has established funding for this project at a maximum amount of \$35,000.00 excluding GST. This covers the period from date of award to March 31, 2009

Source: MERX . Reference: # K8A48-08-0004.

Deadline: October 17, 2008

Storage Transportation and Disposal of Municipal Waste

Requests for Proposals

THE MUNICIPAL WASTE GROUP (MWG) - comprised of the CORPORATIONS of the TOWNSHIPS of BECKWITH and MONTAGUE and of the TOWNS of CARLETON PLACE, MISSISSIPPI MILLS, PERTH, and SMITHS FALLS is inviting interested parties to submit proposals for the: Storage, Transportation and Disposal of its Solid Municipal Waste (approximately 12,500 tonnes in 2007), beginning on June 1, 2010.

MWG is seeking a long term contract with the successful respondent that offers MWG a proposal which provides the best value for dollars spent on these services.

Sealed tenders clearly marked (RFP# 1-08) will be received by:

Mr. Phil Hogan, Treasurer
Town of Carleton Place Town Hall
175 Bridge Street,
Carleton Place, ON K7C 2V8

Proposals shall be received until 10:00 am (local time), on Wednesday, November 26th, 2008 and opened at 10:05 am the same day. As of October 6, 2008, RFP specifications and forms will be available at the Town Hall in Carleton Place for a Non-refundable fee of \$100.00 including GST

NOTE: An Information Meeting for Contractors will be held at 10:00 am on October 29th, 2008 at the Carleton Place Town Hall.
Contact: For information contact: Mr. Wayne Fraser, Public Works Development Coordinator Town of Carleton Place Town Hall 175 Bridge Street, Carleton Place, ON K7C 2V8 Phone: 1-613-257-6203 or (if out of office) 1-613-432-8290 Fax: 1-613-257-8170 E-mail: wfraser@carletonplace.ca

Source: MERX . Reference: # RFP# 1-08).

Deadline: November 26, 2008

Industry Product Stewardship Review

Requests for Proposals

The Ministry of Environment is responsible for the management of provincial land, water, air and wildlife. The Environmental Protection Division works to prevent pollution and promote and restore environmental quality. Its business goals are pollution prevention, continuous improvement in air, land and water quality and fully engaged partners.

The Community Waste Reduction Section administers industry product stewardship programs for beverage containers, electronics, used lubricating oil, filters and containers, pharmaceuticals, architectural coatings and tree-marking-paint, solvents and flammable liquids, gasoline, pesticides, and tires. The role of the ministry in Industry Product Stewardship is to regulate industry in assuming stewardship responsibility for products they produce and sell within a performance-based regulatory framework. In addition, the ministry plays an oversight and support role for regulated producers.

The Ministry of Environment is seeking a contractor to complete an evaluation of the Ministry's administration and oversight of Industry Product Stewardship under the Recycling Regulation and make recommendations on how the ministry could improve its role within the producer responsibility model. The consultant will work closely with members of the Environmental Protection Division Community Waste Reduction section during the review.

Please see the bid document package for further information
Contact: Gregory Tyson Environmental Management Analyst Ministry of Environment Environmental Quality Branch Community Waste Reduction Section
P.O. Box 9342 Stn Prov Govt Victoria, British Columbia V8W 9M1 Phone: 1 (250) 387-9774 Fax: 1 (250) 356-7197 Email: Greg.Tyson@gov.bc.ca

Source: BC Bid . Reference: # EQB-09-074.

Deadline: October 27, 2008

Environmental Employer of the Year Awards Open

ECO Canada, the country's leading authority on environmental human resources, is accepting candidate nominations for the 2009 Environmental Employer of the Year Awards. This is the 4th year that environmental companies will be recognized for their excellence in human resource areas of employee growth and recognition by the Awards administration body.

"We want to celebrate human resource achievements in an industry that continues to expand and continues to have high expectations of both companies and employees," commented Grant Trump, President and CEO of ECO Canada. "The awards provide companies the opportunity to engage their staff and gain vital feedback on HR practices. This contributes greatly to the continued growth and vitality of Canada's environment industry."

The Environmental Employer of the Year Awards are designed to both recognize excellence and inspire advancement and innovation for outstanding HR practices. The environmental business market is an area where employees have a lot of choices. More and more often employees are selecting who they want to work for, and they are selecting companies that have strong track records as quality employers. For their part, employers are working hard to find ways to retain good employees by creating workplace environments that that are challenging, encouraging and rewarding.

"Receiving the Environmental Employer of the Year Award is a great honour. I take pride in this award because it is the voice of our employees. They have recognized us as a top employer which is exactly where we want to be" said Faramarz Bogzaran, President and CEO of SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd. which won the 2008 Environmental Employer of the Year Awards in the large company category.

Companies can apply within two categories: small- to medium-sized company (15-50 employees) and large company (51+ employees). Award finalists will be judged by an independent selection committee consisting of human resource professionals in the community.

The application deadline is Friday, October 17th, 2008.

Full eligibility requirements and application forms can be found at www.eco.ca.

Consulting Services for Risk Assessment Clean Power Call

Requests for Proposals

BC Hydro is seeking additional resources to supplement teams that will be tasked with refining and implementing the project development risk assessment process for proposals received as part of the Clean Power Call. The risk assessment is divided to focus on 4 general areas: Technical, Financial, First Nations, Permitting and Approval.

Specifically, the objective of this RFP is to select an independent, third party advisor

to assist with the Technical risk assessment. The Technical Advisor is to:

- (i) provide advice on the decision making framework used for the Risk Assessment,
- (ii) participate in the technical portions of the Risk Assessment related to development risk (excluding the evaluation of energy source data, financing risks, permitting and approvals), and
- (iii) provide resources to address technical questions raised by evaluation team members related to proposal information (e.g. generation technologies, construction schedules, etc.).
- (iv) provide resources to address technical questions raised by evaluation team members related to proposal information (e.g. generation technologies, construction schedules, etc.).

Contact: Purchasing Department, Quotations, BC Hydro and Power Authority 19th floor, 401 West Georgia Street Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 5A1 Phone: 1 (604) 694-8523 Fax: 1 (604) 663-3915 Email: q-room.schedule@absu.accenture.com

Source: BC Bid . Reference: # Q8-3427.

Deadline: October 17, 2008

Water Budget & Water Quantity Stress Assessment

Requests for Proposals

The North Bay - Mattawa Conservation Authority (NBMCA) requires the assistance of a qualified consulting firm to conduct a Tier 2 Water Budget and Stress assessment and a Tier 3 Water Quantity Risk Assessment for the Trout Lake subwatershed supplying the City of North Bay's municipal drinking water system. The successful firm will complete the Tier 2 and Tier 3 Assessments in accordance with the Ministry of the Environment's Clean Water Act, 2006 Technical Rules: Assessment Report.

It is understood that proposals will need to be prepared based on the Consultation Draft, June 2008 of the Technical Rules but the Assessments will have to meet the requirements specified in the Rules as established. Release of the Rules is anticipated in early November 2008 which would be prior to the start-up meeting (see Task 1 below). The work will be performed under the direction of the North Bay - Mattawa Conservation Authority.

The consultant firm will be selected based on the information submitted according to the evaluation criteria detailed herein. The North Bay - Mattawa Conservation

Authority (NBMCA) reserves the right to modify specific deadlines, to reject any or all submissions, and/or to cancel or withdraw this request for any reason without liability for any costs or damages incurred by respondents including without limitation any expenses incurred in the preparation of the submission. The submission with the lowest fee will not necessarily be favoured.

Contact: Kristen Green Water Resources Specialist North Bay - Mattawa
Conservation Authority 15 Janey Avenue North Bay, ON P1C 1N1 Tel: (705) 474-5420 Fax: (705) 474-9793 kristeng@nbmca.on.ca

Source: MERX . Reference: # 159710.

Deadline: October 20, 2008

Current Measurement Study - Haute Côte-Nord, Quebec

Requests for Proposals

MANDATE - The contractor shall proceed with current measurement studies of three sewage outfalls located in the following municipalities: Betsiamites, Forestville and Les Escoumins, located on the Upper North Shore in Quebec. The sewage outfalls are located within 50 m of the shore.

The contractor shall perform modelling studies for the three above-mentioned sewage outfalls.

TERM OF THE CONTRACT - The term of the contract is ninety (90) business days after contract award. All the fieldwork must be completed no later than October 31, 2008. This mandate must be completed before March 31, 2009.

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

Compulsory Criterion: - Language requirement - The supplier has the necessary resources to provide the service in French.

2 Training - The proposed project manager shall have at least a Bachelor of Science degree.

3 Experience - The proposed project manager shall have a minimum of two years of experience in the taking of hydrodynamic readings in the past five (5) years.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DATE

The proposals shall be submitted no later than the following deadline date and time: 2:00 p.m. on October 15, 2008.

Bids must be given in two (2) separate envelopes; one with technical proposal only and the other with financial proposal.

Contact: Environment Canada 380 Saint-Antoine Ouest Suite 3300 Montréal, Quebec H2Y 3X7 Attn.: Jenny Yee

Source: MERX . Reference: # 159617.

Deadline: October 15, 2008

Capital Project Management for Thermal Generation

Requests for Proposals

The Capital Project Manager will be responsible for managing Capital Projects in Thermal as assigned. This may include any or all aspects of project management and delivery as required. A core part of the Thermal capital plan is the asbestos program for Burrard Generating Station. Therefore, a key role of the Capital Project Manager will be to act as the Asbestos Manager.

Contact: Purchasing Department, Quotations, BC Hydro and Power Authority 19th floor, 401 West Georgia Street Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 5A1 Phone: 1 (604) 694-8523 Fax: 1 (604) 663-3915 Email: q-room.schedule@absu.accenture.com

Source: BC Bid . Reference: # Q8-3412.

Deadline: October 14, 2008

International

Texas Renewables '08

Call For Presenters

The Texas Renewable Industry Association (TREIA) will host the "Texas Renewables '08" Conference and Exhibit on November 9 to 11, 2008 in Austin, TX. This event is the only one in Texas focused solely on policy developments and

business activity in the renewable energy field, including wind, solar electric and thermal, biomass electric, ethanol, Biodiesel, geothermal heat pumps and geothermal electric.

This Conference and Exhibit will include:

- International Business Connections Forum
Companies from Canada, UK and Germany will present their technology to local industry leaders. Companies selected to present at the Forum will receive complementary entrance to the Conference.
- Solar Water Heating Forum
- Two Days of Conference Sessions
- Renewable Energy Installations and ERCOT (Electric Reliability Council of Texas) Control Center Tour
- Keynote Luncheon
- Two Receptions
- Exhibits
- One-on-one meetings with potential partners

This event is valuable for any company interested in doing business in any segment of the Renewable Energy sector in Texas and has proven very successful in previous years. With the growing importance of the industry, the Conference also has grown in importance.

Questions/Registration details:

Maria Bofill
Trade Commissioner -Déléguee Commerciale Consulate of Canada / Consulat du Canada
5847 San Felipe, Suite 1700 - Houston, Texas 77057
Tel 713-821-1442
Maria.Bofill@international.gc.ca

Upcoming Conferences/Events/Trade Show

Local

MCC Speakers Series

Hon. Andrew Swan

Minister of Competitiveness, Training & Trade

Marlborough Hotel, Marlborough Hall
October 21, 2008
7:30 – 9:00 am

Sponsored by: [Sequoia Energy Inc.](#)

Registration: [Online](#) or [Hard Copy Form](#)

National

AMERICANA International Environmental Trade Show and Conference

March 17 – 19, 2009

RÉSEAU environnement will hold its 8th edition of the AMERICANA International Environmental Technology Trade Show and Conference from March 17 to 19, 2009 at the Montreal Convention Centre. Recognized as one of the most important events of its kind in North America, this year's AMERICANA will play host to more than 10,000 participants, 400 exhibitors and 150 speakers from Québec, Canada and more than 60 countries worldwide. Created in 1995 and held every two years, AMERICANA is organized by RÉSEAU environnement. For more information or for registration please visit: www.americana.org

March 17 – 19, 2009

Environmental Law for Business, 2008

November 20, 2008 is the date for Gowlings' annual Environmental Law for Business conference. In addition to providing an update on changes to environmental laws over the last year, speakers will provide insight into new developments in related areas.

For more information, please contact: Nory Paredes at:
nory.paredes@gowlings.com or (416) 862-5746.

Remediation Technologies Symposium REMTEC 2008

Oct 15-17, 2008

The Remediation Technologies Symposium 2008 (RemTech™ 2008) is the premier remediation technology transfer event for environmental professionals, encompassing the latest innovations in soil and groundwater remediation. The event is hosted by the Environmental Services Association of Alberta and will be held at the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel in Banff, Alberta.

[Web Site](#) [Registration Details](#)

A&WMA Presents Conference in Edmonton

The Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) will present "Integrated Waste Management Systems" November 12-14, 2008, in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. This conference will examine issues related to municipal waste and waste management systems.

"This informative conference will unite speakers with hands-on experience in the design and operation of integrated waste management systems," said Adrienne Carolla, A&WMA Executive Director. "Solid waste management practitioners in municipal consulting firms, industry professionals, and academics should not miss this event."

The conference will be divided into four sessions: an overview of successful waste management systems; new and emerging technologies; costs; and decision processes.

For more information, or to register, visit www.awma.org/go/IWMS08

The Air & Waste Management Association is a nonprofit, nonpartisan professional organization that provides training, information, and networking opportunities to thousands of environmental professionals in 65 countries. For more information, visit www.awma.org

CSA Emergency Management Roundtable

Vancouver, BC -- October 14, 2008
Calgary, AB -- October 15, 2008
Toronto, ON -- October 16, 2008
Ottawa, ON -- October 17, 2008

Successful emergency management means more than fast, effective response to unplanned incidents. It requires effective planning for prevention, mitigation, preparedness, business continuity and recovery. SARS, the 2003 blackout, and the Quebec ice storms demonstrate that natural or human-induced disaster can occur anytime, anywhere.

CSA, in conjunction with Public Safety Canada and other stakeholders, presents CSA Z1600: Emergency Management and Business Continuity Programs, a comprehensive emergency management program standard. Z1600 is based on the NFPA 1600 standard; harmonization of Canadian and US standards helps reduce costs and complexities for companies which operate in both countries.

Z1600 is the first Canadian standard that includes emergency management and business continuity planning for private and public organizations of all sizes. Attendance at this half-day seminar introduces you to Z1600, providing an overview, application to your organization, and information on where to access additional tools to support the implementation of this standard in your organization.

Attendees will receive an electronic copy of the standard.

For more information on Z1600 and to REGISTER visit:

Website: https://learningcentre.csa.ca/lc_site/be.asp?gid=50009573&tid=50038535

Email: seminars@csa.ca

Tel: 1-800-463-6727

Environmental Compliance Conference

November 12, 2008
Hilton Toronto Airport, Toronto

Our annual one-day compliance conference will take place on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 at the Hilton Toronto Airport. We are happy to announce that Golder Associates and Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP will be sponsoring this event. At this year's Environmental Compliance Conference, you will learn the consultant's perspective, a legal point of view and industry insight on the following topics: The New Chemical Management Plan, Civil liability for Spills and Contaminated Sites, Navigating the New Water Regulations, Emissions Trading - Applying and Trading Credits, Waste Management - Understanding Enforcement of the three Rs.

Environmental Compliance Conference will provide participants with this experience by giving them the opportunity to:

Network with influential decision-makers, peers, experts and practitioners from all types of industry;

Listen and learn from key consultants, legal practitioners, government representatives and corporate executives.

Gain new insight into key environmental compliance issues. Learn how they apply to your business and what the regulations really mean.

Hear first-hand success stories of organizations that have gained a distinct competitive advantage through the skills of their workforce.

For more information visit:

www.environmental-expert.com

EPIC: The Vancouver Sun Sustainable Living Expo

May 8 - 10, 2009

EPIC: The Vancouver Sun Sustainable Living Expo is Vancouver's largest green consumer show and eco-marketplace. Visit EPIC to learn about environmentally-friendly products and companies that mix style and quality with sustainability.

Greening your life is easy - all you need is a little education and inspiration. EPIC has lots of both. Join us for this three day celebration of green living, and surround yourself with truly inspiring people and environmentally innovative products.

Learn how to live a healthier, more sustainable life from experts in everything from eco traveling to green weddings. Reveal your inner treehugger and spend the day shopping in our marketplace of over 200 organizations offering the latest green products that are earth-friendly, ethically sourced, and better for your health. Let EPIC inspire you to 'Shop and Th!nk'.

International

Water, Energy and Environment Conference and Trade Show

The Embassy of Jordan in Ottawa has requested that information about a water, energy and environment conference & trade show in Amman, taking place from November 9-13, be shared. Details of the event can be found at the following link:

http://www.jaba.org.jo/docs/AJEX_2008_Concept_paper.pdf

Canada and Jordan have an emerging bilateral commercial relationship framed around negotiations towards a free trade agreement (FTA) and foreign investment promotion and protection agreement (FIPA). An improved business climate should hopefully lead to more Canadian firms exporting and increase two-way investment.

The show will be of interest to entities dealing in the following areas:

- * Energy efficiency, audit service and equipment
- * Energy saving devices and solutions
- * Renewable energy solution providers
- * Water efficiency and treatment technologies and service providers
- * Consulting services
- * Hybrid automotive
- * Utility companies

FYI there is also an environmental industries market report for Jordan on Infoexport that could help a company decide if this market fits with their IBD strategy - <http://www.infoexport.gc.ca/ie-en/MarketProspect.jsp?oid=74#592>.

If you are aware of Canadian entities that may be interested in participating, please forward them the two links. I can assist anyone if needed in seeking further information about the event linked to any interested Canadian companies you are made aware of - for example who are participants and exhibitors that will be at the show, so that a company can make an informed decision regarding potential participation. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Steve Guertin
Trade Commissioner
Egypt, Israel, Jordan, West Bank
WOS
tel: 613-944-6994

Greenbuild 2008

An Invitation to Exhibit in the Canada Pavilion and to joint the Business Networking Reception at Greenbuild 2008 - Boston

November 18 – 21

Join representatives from approximately 20 Canadian companies, organizations and government agencies showcasing their goods and services at the 2008 Greenbuild International Conference and Expo, the world's largest conference and exposition dedicated to employing green building practices. If designing, building, living and working in green buildings is important to you, you're in good company.

Greenbuild is a great opportunity to build new relationships and connect with more than 22,000 industry professionals from the United States and from more than 60 countries around the world. You will be counted among the more than 400 exhibitors at the Greenbuild Expo and will have the opportunity to network and showcase your products and technologies, attend LEED workshops and participate in project tours in Boston. Don't miss your chance to be part of Greenbuild 2008. Space within the Canada Pavilion is limited, so book your booth early.

For information on the Canada Pavilion and Business Networking Reception, please go to www.greenbuildexpo.org

Municipalika

6th International Exhibition & Conference on Municipal Services, Urban Development and Public Works

Making Cities Work
January 29 – 31

Mumbai, India

With the rapid pace of Urbanization, the percentage of India's population living in cities and urban areas has almost doubled to 27.8% in 2001 from 14% at the time of Independence. This is expected to accelerate even further, and by 2021 over 40% of Indians will be living in urban areas. The scale of urbanization in India can be seen in 6 mega cities (5mn plus), 29 metro cities (1 mn plus), 500 cities (100,000 plus), with a total of over 5000. By 2011, Urban India will contribute over 65% to Indian GDP. Indian Cities provide settings as engines of economic growth, and at the same time face enormous challenges.

For more information on initiatives and exhibit profiles, please click [here](#).

The 11th International Conference on Energy and Environment

March 15-18, 2009 Hurgada , Egypt

I am pleased to introduce to you the 11th International Conference on Energy and Environment that will be held in Hurgada , Egypt March 15-18, 2009. This conference will also be coupled with the 8th World Conference on Solar Electricity. The Conference is held every two years and organized jointly by The Supreme Council for Scientific Research in Egypt , Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan and the University of California (UCLA), USA .

It covers broad topics on Energy and Environment including the following topics
Renewable Energy: Solar, Wind, Biomass,...
Advanced Energy Technologies: Nuclear (fission and fusion), Dark Energy, Nano - materials and technology.

Environmental issues related to energy: Combustion, air pollution, bio fuels, hydrogen and fuel cells, and environmental and health effects of electromagnetic waves.

The website for the conference is: <http://www.eecairo.com>

The Deadline for abstracts is: October 15, 2008

Carbonexpo Australasia 2008

Gold Coast, Australia 30-31 October 2008

[Environment Business Australia](#) and the [Asia-Pacific Emissions Trading Forum](#) are pleased to announce that with the Queensland Government and Gold Coast City Council we will be hosting Australia's first dedicated, industry-hosted trade fair & conference for carbon market participants & service providers across Australasia. Carbon Expo Australasia 2008 will be held at the Gold Coast Convention Centre 30-31 October 2008 www.carbonexpo.com.au

Carbon Expo Australasia 2008 will be the first significant Carbon Trade Fair and Conference organised by leading industry associations for Australian businesses to showcase their range of carbon market products and services. Recognising that the climate change agenda has substantially progressed beyond just science and policy, to now actively engage an increasing number of businesses, the event is intended to provide an opportunity for private sector businesses to showcase their activities, services and products in the emerging carbon market.

We have been fortunate to secure significant domestic and international keynote speakers, and conference plenary sessions and workshops addressing cutting edge issues in emissions trading markets and low carbon technologies will be integrated with the Trade Fair.

Carbon Expo Australasia 2008 will offer participants the opportunity to do business and access current information regarding new carbon market products and services from a wide range of suppliers including energy providers and other emitting industries, carbon offset providers, carbon market consultants, carbon market brokers and legal advisers, banks and financial institutions, technology providers, and suppliers of energy efficient & 'clean-tech' products to assist businesses in reducing, managing and offsetting carbon emissions. Participants will include leading businesses and industries in Australia, New Zealand and South East Asia that are currently involved in the carbon market, and those interested in engaging in this emerging market. Market sectors that will be significantly represented include energy generation ('traditional' and renewable), mining, transport, petroleum producers, manufacturing & construction, agriculture & forestry, financial services, and carbon market services. Significant attendance from Government agencies is also expected.

More information concerning the Event Program, Corporate Sponsorship Opportunities, and Registration will follow shortly. Keep an eye on the Expo website www.carbonexpo.com.au for more information, or email us at info@carbonexpo.com.au This e-mail address is being protected from spam bots, you need JavaScript enabled to view it.