



CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & POLICY

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Spring 2002 Newsletter

What's New?

Welcome Corey...

In February, Corey Diamond joined the CIELAP team. Corey brings a background in environmental studies from the University of Waterloo, as well as work experience in the NGO fundraising field. As our Project Officer, Corey has already undertaken some key projects and helped us with our strategic development. We are pleased to have Corey on the team and look forward to working with him!

Strategic Plan Approved!

The Board of Directors of CIELAP at its January 2002 meeting approved CIELAP's new three year strategic plan. The plan is based on a number of strategic planning workshops involving members of the board, staff and volunteers. We have identified four program areas for the next three years: Sustainable Policy Solutions; Governance for Sustainability; Public and Community Engagement; and Youth Leadership. We will adopt a mix of approaches and strategies to make our research and studies more accessible and meaningful. We will actively engage with stakeholders and the public, and our research process will become more interactive. We will also solicit more input and reach out to share our views with opinion leaders, grassroots organizations, individuals and decision-makers.

We will put progress towards sustainability front and centre to ensure that the outputs from our four program areas are compatible with or incorporate the other two components of sustainability — economic and social equity. If you are interested in discussing our plans with us, please contact Anne Mitchell at 416-923-3529 ext 24.

Partnering for Sustainability Conference a Success!

On April 8th and 9th, CIELAP (in conjunction with the Strategy Institute) held a conference entitled "Partnering for Sustainability". Drawing from considerable experience from government, business and NGOs, conference attendees were treated to a wide array of views on sustainability from some of the leading experts in the field. The conference, held in order to help the Government of Canada form its position

heading into the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in August, explored the following topics:

- the role of partnerships between business, government and NGOs to achieve sustainability
- the elements of a good partnership, including the need to identify the *right* partner, a clear vision of expected outcomes for each player, active dialogue at all levels and the need for senior management involvement from the get-go
- how some businesses are achieving the "triple bottom line" of economic, ecological and social benefits
- how the government can create a favourable habitat for sustainability by setting "smart" regulations

The proceedings from the conference will be released shortly to all attendees. If you would like to receive them, please contact Corey at corey@cielap.org

Green Power Opportunities for Ontario

In February, CIELAP, the David Suzuki Foundation and the Toronto Renewable Energy Co-Operative (TREC) released a report entitled ***Green Power Opportunities for Ontario***. The report found that Ontario has enough capacity to close coal-fired electricity plants with a combination of energy efficiency and renewable energy options. However, support for these two options from the Ontario government is needed prior to the opening up of the electricity market this spring.

Please see the attachment for a summary of the report, or visit our web site at www.cielap.org to download the full document.

Globetrotting Anne!

CIELAP's ED visited Fundacion Ambio, our partner in Costa Rica in February to wrap up our three year program on sustainable agriculture and the agricultural products of biotechnology. With the help of CIDA, CIELAP and Fundacion Ambio have been working together to develop a policy and regulatory framework for the agricultural products of biotechnology in Costa Rica. This program is coming to an end because CIDA does not want to extend funding to the same southern partner on the same issue beyond three years. Unfortunately, the government of Costa Rica has not yet adopted the proposed draft 'model law' on biosafety prepared through this project — so our work is not yet done. We will be seeking funding to continue this work from other sources.

Meanwhile, we have approached CIDA for an exploratory grant to enable us to engage with two environmental NGOs, one in Tanzania and one in Uganda, who are also working on these issues. Should CIDA approve our application, the funding we receive will enable us to invite representatives from these two organizations, and a representative from Fundacion Ambio to Toronto to discuss our work together. We hope

that this will result in a strong south-south partnership, linking Fundacion Ambio to the two African organizations who have similar concerns.

Coming Up....

CIELAP and York FES to host Water Workshop for Conservation Authorities

On April 26th, 2002 CIELAP and York University's Faculty of Environmental Studies (as part of the Sustainable Toronto project) will co-host a workshop for Ontario's Conservation Authorities. The purpose of the workshop will be to allow watershed managers from across Ontario to share their experiences, challenges and issues regarding water quality management in Ontario. We're hoping for some interesting discussion from everyone and plan to use the information gathered to continue our work on addressing water quality in Ontario.

2002 Summer Sail — It's time to set sail again!

On June 27th 2002, we are holding our **fourth annual** Summer Sail aboard *The Challenge* on Lake Ontario. Over the last three years, this has been a fun event and has also raised money for CIELAP's research and educational activities. This year, we will also be holding a volunteer appreciation ceremony.

The boat will tour around Lake Ontario, past the Toronto Islands and the Leslie Spit. Tickets are \$100, with a taxable receipt on donation portion. Please see the flyer attached for more information.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please call 416-923-3529 ext 28 or e-mail cielap@cielap.org.

Updated NPRI Map

We are hard at work developing the 3rd NPRI (National Pollutant Release Inventory) map which details the types and impacts of pollution in Canada. This year, we are creating 2 maps: one for high school students, and one for a younger audience. We hope to distribute the maps to schools and libraries across Canada in time for the new school year in September.

Soon to be released....

In the coming months, CIELAP is set to release two key publications. The first will be an updated ***Citizens' Guide to Biotechnology***, which will be released by the end of April. The second is a publication called ***Open for Toxics II***, which is set to be completed by

June. Please check out our web site at www.cielap.org in the coming weeks for updates on these two timely publications.

Thanks Again to our Volunteers!

In the last few months, many volunteers have lent their invaluable time to help us with our projects. Thanks to the following volunteers for your hard work and dedication:

Andrea Bailey (UofT law) — Biotechnology
Ravenna Barker (UofT) — Biotechnology, Partnering for Sustainability
Celia Braves (UofT) — Citizen's Guide to Biotechnology.
Steven Ferracane (York) — Water Quality
Anna Ford (UofT) — Citizen's Guide to Biotechnology
Angelica Guillarte (UofT) — Water Quality, Ontario's Conservation Authorities
Ingrid Harris — Open for Toxics II
Tristan Lees — Green Power initiatives, Partnering for Sustainability Conference
Carmelina Macario (UofT) — Open for Toxics II
Kristine McCoy (Niagara College) — Ontario's Conservation Authorities
Daniella Molnar (York) — Ontario's Conservation Authorities
Angela Morris (UofT) — Partnering for Sustainability
Sandra Patano (York) — Water Quality
Jolanta Rasteniene (Peel District) — Strategic Implementation Plan and writing proposals. Jolanta will continue to work with us 2 days a week.
D. T. Smeh (UofT) — Information Management

CIELAP Needs You in 2002!

As a non-profit organization, our work depends on the funds we raise through our individual, corporate and governmental supporters. Every dollar you give to CIELAP goes directly to advancing the environmental agenda in Canada and helps us to continue the vital work we've been doing for more than 30 years.

If you'd like to make a donation to CIELAP, please call Anicia Bonilla at (416) 923-3529 x28 or send a cheque or credit card number to:

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Thank you!!

The CIELAP Listserv

We have recently set up a CIELAP listserv to help us better manage our communications. We will use this to send out our newsletters and notification about interesting developments at CIELAP.

If you would like to unsubscribe, **PLEASE HIT "reply" AND SEND AN EMAIL DIRECTLY TO corey@cielap.org.**