

“WHAT’S NEW IN P2”

A Monthly Information Service

Canadian Centre for Pollution Prevention (C2P2)
Canadian Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse (CPPIC)

August 2008 Edition

Also available on-line at <http://www.c2p2online.com/wnip2>

P2 News

B.C. to Fund Clean Energy Projects

The government of British Columbia has announced the first suite of clean energy projects that will be funded through the Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund. The 15 newly selected projects come from across B.C. and represent a range of technologies and sectors (including bio-energy, solar, geothermal and others) that address specific energy and environmental priorities identified by the government. It is expected that the \$25 million in funding will leverage a total project value of nearly \$80 million. The ICE Fund is designed to accelerate the commercialization of new, clean and renewable energy technologies and supports the B.C. Energy Plan; including the government’s goal of electricity self-sufficiency by 2016 and cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 33% by 2020. A second call for applications to the ICE Fund is expected in the fall of 2008, with funding decisions in early 2009. For more information, please see the following links:

Government of British Columbia, *News Release: 15 Projects Highlight B.C.’s Clean Energy Innovation*

http://www.gov.bc.ca/ecdev/down/ice_fund_newsrelease.pdf

Government of British Columbia, *Approved Innovative Clean Energy Fund Projects*

http://www.gov.bc.ca/ecdev/down/ice_fund_backgrounder2.pdf

Government of British Columbia, *Innovative Clean Energy Fund Website*

http://www.gov.bc.ca/ecdev/popt/innovative_clean_energy_fund.html

Ontario Takes Steps to Protect the Northern Boreal Forest

The government of Ontario has announced that it will permanently protect one half of the province’s northern boreal forest from mining and other resource development projects as part of the Far North Planning Initiative. The announcement, made by Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty, ensures that 225,000 square kilometers of forest will be off limits to resource projects and restricted to tourism and traditional aboriginal uses. The Premier also announced that the province will work with First Nations, Métis communities, and resource industries to create a plan for sustainable development in the remaining boreal lands. The Boreal region in Northern Ontario represents 43% of the province’s land mass and is one of the world’s largest intact ecosystems, containing more than 200 sensitive species of animals. It is also a valuable carbon sink. For more information, please see the following links:

Government of Ontario, *News Release: Protecting Ontario’s Northern Boreal Forest*

<http://www.premier.gov.on.ca/news/Product.asp?ProductID=2353&Lang=EN>

Globe and Mail c/o Forest Ethics Website, *Ontario to spare boreal forests*

<http://www.forestethics.org/article.php?id=2187>

CBC.ca, *Ont. premier pledges to preserve giant swath of northern boreal forest*

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/toronto/story/2008/07/14/ont-mining.html>

More Action Taken Under the Chemicals Management Plan: Focus on PBDEs

The Government of Canada will publish final regulations to reduce the levels of Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers (PBDEs) that could be entering the environment as part of Canada's Chemical Management Plan. PBDEs are used to slow the spread of fire in a wide variety of plastics, fabrics, glues, sealants and foams. While they were not found to be harmful to human health, they accumulate in the environment and build up in living organisms. PBDEs are not manufactured in Canada but are imported for use in commercial and consumer products. The new regulations will prohibit the manufacture of all PBDEs and restrict the import, use and sale of PentaBDE and OctaBDE which meet the criteria for virtual elimination under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, 1999. The regulations are a first step in mitigating the risk posed by PBDEs in Canada and additional actions are being developed to complement the regulations. For more information, please see the following links:

Environment Canada, *News Release*

<http://www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=714D9AAE-1&news=C0D6EB45-514A-4050-98B5-9B8A6730BBFB>

Environment Canada, *Chemical Substances*

<http://www.chemicalsubstanceschimiques.gc.ca/en/>

“Sharrows” Support Cyclists and Active Transportation in Winnipeg

New bicycle lanes have been painted and signage installed on more than half a dozen busy traffic routes in Winnipeg. The newly painted lines create “sharrows”, or narrow bike lanes demarcated on existing streets, and are intended to ease tension between cyclists and motorists sharing the busy roads. With no such lanes in existence before the sharrows, advocates of active transportation in Winnipeg are hoping that the initiative will lead to further steps to make the city more cycle-friendly. The City of Winnipeg set aside \$100,000 in the 2008 capital budget for the sharrow initiative. For more information, please see the following links:

City of Winnipeg, *News Release: Sharrow Lane Markings and Signage Now on Select City Streets*

http://www.winnipeg.ca/cao/media/news/nr_2008/nr_20080611.stm

CBC.ca, *'Sharrows' aim to help drivers, cyclists share the road*

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2008/05/28/sharrows.html>

Beijing Olympics: Concerns about Air Quality

This past month, media coverage of Beijing's efforts to have a “green” Olympic event on August 8th through 24th largely focused on air quality. Starting July 20th, an even-and-odd numbered license plate rule was put into effect, which allows vehicles with odd-numbered plates to drive one day, and vehicles with even-numbered plates to drive on another. As a result, Beijing has kept one half of the city's 3.3 million vehicles off the road. Regardless, it has been reported that the resulting air quality is not at a sufficient level for the games, putting high performance athletes at risk. In response, the Beijing Environmental Protection Bureau has put together an emergency plan through which up to 90% of vehicles could be removed from the roads, and all construction sites and more factories closed if air quality deteriorates during the international event.

At the same time that concerns about air quality are being expressed, there have been media reports highlighting the successful environmental initiatives undertaken by Beijing in preparation for the Olympics, including the incorporation of green building features in Olympics-related construction, improved wastewater treatment, and an expanded subway and public transportation system.

For more information, please see the following links:

China Daily, *Beijing mulls emergency green plan for Games*

http://chinadaily.com.cn/china/2008-07/28/content_6880332.htm

Treehugger, *Its Air Experiment Failing, Beijing Considers "Emergency" Plan*

http://www.treehugger.com/files/2008/07/beijing_air_experiment_not_working.php

The Beijinger, *Emergency Air Quality Measures*

<http://www.thebeijinger.com/blog/tbjblog/2008/07/28/p13580>

GLOBE-Net News, *The Beijing Olympics: changing a city forever*

<http://www.globe-net.com/news/index.cfm?type=1&newsID=3641>

CPPIC This Month

Environment Canada's Canadian Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse (CPPIC), an online database and comprehensive resource for pollution prevention (P2) information, continues to grow as new resources are added to the database and improvements are made to the P2 web site. The following is a summary of the recent additions:

15 new resources were added to the database. Resources may be of interest to community groups, educators, students, small- and medium-sized enterprises (SME), municipalities, consumers, the general public and industry. Sample resources include:

- The Shore Primer: A Cottagers Guide to a Healthy Waterfront - <http://www.ec.gc.ca/cppic/En/refView.cfm?refId=2157>
- Tomorrow Today: how Canada can make a world of difference - <http://www.ec.gc.ca/cppic/En/refView.cfm?refId=2161>
- Environmental claims: A guide for industry and advertisers - <http://www.ec.gc.ca/cppic/En/refView.cfm?refId=2162>
- Green Building in North America: Opportunities and Challenges - <http://www.ec.gc.ca/cppic/En/refView.cfm?refId=2163>
- Transit-Oriented Development Case Studies - <http://www.ec.gc.ca/cppic/En/refView.cfm?refId=2170>

What's New? Visit the *What's New* Section for the complete list of resources added each month <http://www.ec.gc.ca/cppic/En/whatsNew.cfm>

Publications

G8 Climate Scorecards, WWF and Allianz

A new report commissioned by the environmental organization WWF and international financial services provider Allianz provides a ranking of the G8 countries based on climate performance. The report reveals that G8 countries are lagging behind in the race against climate change and recommends that leaders of G8 countries commit to binding long-term emission reduction targets. The report ranks the countries according to 9 quantitative indicators (such as comparing emission trends and progress towards their Kyoto target) as well as scores them on 3 specific policy areas (energy efficiency, renewable energy, and development of carbon markets).

According to the scorecards the UK leads the group, slightly ahead of France and Germany. At the bottom of the ranking are Canada and the U.S., at number 7 and 8 respectively. Canada is described as having very high per capita emissions and inadequate mid to long-term greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. Further, Canada displays a steadily increasing trend in total emissions far away from its Kyoto targets. The scorecards also analyze the climate and energy policies of the 5 emerging economies (Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa).

WWF

http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/climate_change/publications/g8_nations.cfm?uNewsID=138001

China after the Olympics: Lessons from Beijing, Greenpeace

Greenpeace released an environmental report in July which is intended to provide an independent assessment of the environmental initiatives of Beijing's 2008 Olympic Games. Recognizing that the rating of Beijing should be taken in the context of a number of factors, (including that China is a developing country with serious environmental challenges associated with its rapid growth, population and limited experience in environmental solutions) the report indicates that China has launched impressive green policies in the run up to the Olympics. The report also suggests that there have been a number of crucial opportunities missed to kick-start ambitious environmental initiatives across Beijing. By focusing on issues such as air quality, climate change, energy use, transportation, toxic materials and more, the report highlights key achievements of Beijing in preparing for the Olympics, as well as missed opportunities, and ends with recommendations. For more information, please see the following links:

Greenpeace, *China after the Olympics: Lessons from Beijing*
<http://www.greenpeace.org/china/en/news/green>

Conferences and Events

33rd Annual Conference of the Solar Energy Society of Canada & 3rd Canadian Solar Buildings Research Network Conference – Fredericton August 20 - 22

For a detailed conference program and brochure visit <http://www.solarbuildings.ca/en/conference>

Reducing Environmental Footprint in Durham Region - Ajax September 19

This Public Stakeholder's Forum of the Durham Sustainability Stewardship Program (DSSP) will be held at the Ajax Convention Centre. For further information on the agenda, please contact Meena Hassanali at (905) 822-4133 ext. 233 or visit <http://www.oceta.on.ca/DSSP/forums.htm>. (Also please see the "From the Desk of ED" section below for more information on the DSSP).

EcoCare 2008 – London October 20-21

This conference and trade show focuses on practical and innovative ways to encourage ecological stewardship within the Canadian Healthcare Sector and is sponsored by the London Health Sciences Centre, in partnership with the University of Western Ontario and the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment. For details, including the agenda and how to register, visit <http://www.lhsc.on.ca/ecologic/conference.htm>.

Internet Bits and Bytes

What are British Columbians doing with their Climate Action Dividends?

Over the month of July, British Columbians received their \$100 Climate Action Dividends. As part of the unveiling of the B.C.'s Carbon Tax, which came into effect July 1st, the provincial government offered residents the dividends to help take action on climate change. In response, The Tyee (a B.C.-based independent daily online magazine) created the website *Green Your Campbell Cash* which provides a central showcase and marketplace for innovative grassroots projects in B.C. The interactive web page allows visitors to post their personal commitment to

greening their \$100 and/or their plans for larger-scale projects. Furthermore, visitors can browse projects initiated by others, vote for their favorites, and connect with organizers to make a donation.

Green Your Campbell Cash

<http://contest.thetyee.ca/greengyourcampbellcash/>

A Public Policy Proposal for Green Bonds

A team of Action Canada Fellows suggest that providing Canadians with a direct and safe way to invest in green enterprises and renewable energy technologies is an effective strategy for fighting climate change. The Action Canada Team, which is funded by the federal government and private sector to explore public policy issues, have put forward a public policy proposal to make Green Bonds available in a format similar to Canadian Savings Bonds. The Green Bonds would offer a way for the public to buy a government-backed financial instrument, and the money raised would be made available in the form of a loan to companies that produce renewable energy. By doing so, the Action Canada Team suggests that a market for renewable energy would be created in Canada, accelerating the deployment of renewable energy production.

Green Bonds

<http://www.greenbonds.ca/>

CBC.ca, *Buy a Bond, Save the Planet*

<http://www.cbc.ca/money/story/2008/07/16/f-savory-tomrand.html>

From the Desk of the ED

C2P2 is pleased to be a partner of the Durham Sustainability Stewardship Program (DSSP) with the Ontario Centre for Environmental Technology Advancement (OCETA) and the Durham Sustain Ability. The objective of the program is to contribute to the reduction of the overall ecological footprint of the region by generating awareness of Sustainable Consumption and Production across the community and encouraging behavior change by practical applications of the Pollution Prevention and Energy Efficiency practices in home and business settings. The 3-year program aims to support community-based environmental stewardship, education and outreach in the regional municipality of Durham, located just east of Toronto. The program is funded by a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The initial kick off for the DSSP program will be a public forum held at the Ajax Convention Centre on September 19th. An exciting program of speakers and presentations is being finalized and full details will be posted shortly at the website <http://www.oceta.on.ca/DSSP/forums.htm>. By working with local government agencies, businesses, school communities, health care organizations and local citizens; quantifiable environmental reductions in toxics, smog precursors, greenhouse gases and hazardous wastes will be achieved. For more information on the DSSP and the forum please contact Ms. Meena Hassanali at OCETA (905)822-4133 ext. 233.

Information Sharing

If you wish to contribute to this information service, please e-mail us at info@c2p2online.com.