



CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY

L'INSTITUT CANADIEN DU DROIT ET DE LA POLITIQUE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

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Canadian Institute for Environmental Law and Policy

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May 2005 newsletter

What's New?

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[Interns and Volunteers](#) – who's joined us, who is moving on

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Visit the "What's New" section of our website weekly to find out what we are working on and view our latest publications – <http://www.cielap.org/whatsnew.shtml>.

Friends of CIELAP

Donors and supporters ask us if there are other ways to get involved in CIELAP. Yes. You can become a *Friend of CIELAP*. In addition to making a donation to the organization, you can join one of CIELAP's knowledge clusters. These groups act as advisors on different topics and issues, and review research articles and ideas.

By joining a **Knowledge Cluster** you can contribute your knowledge to expand CIELAP's knowledge base and network. You can connect with people who share the same interest and become a reviewer for CIELAP's work.

If you would like to become a member of a knowledge cluster, pick a topic you are passionate about and contact us. Click on the links below to review our publications on your topic of interest and see what you can add.

Current clusters exist around the topics of:

Biotechnology and Biological Diversity <http://www.cielap.org/publicationcategory.html#bio>

Energy and Climate Change <http://www.cielap.org/publicationcategory.html#energy>

Hazardous Waste <http://www.cielap.org/publicationcategory.html#waste>

Sustainability and Sustainable Development <http://www.cielap.org/publicationcategory.html#sustainable>

Water Quality and Quantity <http://www.cielap.org/publicationcategory.html#water>

Contact us by e-mailing interns@cielap.org or calling (416) 923-3529 ext. 26.

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Biological Diversity

Our research associate Vimla Panday attended the *Life Patents and the Public Interest in Canada* workshop organized by CELA on May 3, 2005 in Toronto. Vimla is currently developing a gap analysis of Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy. The report will be available on CIELAP's website shortly.

Anne Mitchell, CIELAP's ED, participated in the May 26 meeting of the Canadian Biotechnology Advisory Committee (CBAC). The meeting focused on discussing *bio-economy* as the economy of the future. CIELAP's publication *GMO Statutory Liability Regimes: An International Review* explores what regulatory framework is needed to create a manageable bio-economy that protects the interests of all stakeholders, not just advances the interests of the technology's proponents.

Download the publication here <http://www.cielap.org/publicationcategory.html#bio>

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Environmental Law Centre in South Africa

CIELAP is continuing to work towards the setting up of an environmental law centre in South Africa. With funding from the International Development Research Centre, CIELAP will build on exploratory work carried out in 2004-2005, and study organizational models for environmental law centres from around the world. The objective of this project is to investigate and document modes of establishing, operating, funding, and sustaining in existing environmental law centres, with a view to informing deliberations on the establishment of such centres in South Africa and elsewhere.

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Corporate Environmental Responsibility

As sustainability starts to take on a more significant role in business decisions, the definition and vision of Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) will become a hotly debated topic. CIELAP's Communications and Fund Development officer, Iana Nikolova, joined over 30 other ENGO representatives on May 26 in Toronto for a one-day workshop exploring the vision of CER among Canadian environmental organizations. Organized by Pembina and Pollution Probe, the workshop looked at topics such as measuring and reporting, transparency, regulatory compliance, beyond compliance, environmental commitment, stakeholder engagement, and commitment to continuous improvement. The participants also talked about the tools and approaches needed to achieve the ENGO's vision of CER. A report based on the outcomes of the workshop will be available soon.

To explore the concept of sustainability and to learn about tools to achieve sustainability, survey CIELAP's publications on the topic

<http://www.cielap.org/publicationcategory.html#sustainable>

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Alcan prize for sustainability

Anne Mitchell, CIELAP's ED, participated in a review process of applications for Alcan's prize for sustainability. The \$1 million prize is awarded annually to a not-for-profit organization that has contributed significantly to the goal of sustainability. Anne was the NGO representative on the Toronto assessors' panel – one of four panels worldwide.

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One Tonne Challenge – one step further

The Rick Mercer and Pierre Lebeau One Tonne Challenge ads encourage Canadians to do their part to reduce their CO2 emissions by one tonne. CIELAP would like to take this challenge one step further – we want to show what Canadians are doing to meet the challenge. Over the next six months CIELAP will work with prominent Canadians to showcase what they have done and are planning to do towards reducing their CO2 emissions by one tonne. Their stories will motivate the rest of us to embrace the One Tonne Challenge as a lifestyle choice, not simply ignore it as an abstract idea. At CIELAP's 3rd *Partnering for Sustainability* and our 35th *Anniversary*, you will have the chance to pledge what you will do to meet the One Tonne Challenge over the following six months.

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Save the Date – October 27 and 28, 2005 in Toronto

3rd Partnering for Sustainability Conference

CIELAP is planning its 3rd *Partnering for Sustainability* conference to be held on October 27 and 28, 2005 in Toronto. The focus of this year's conference is Urban Sustainability.

UNEP, World Bank, OECD, Suncor, and the Auditor General are only a few of the organizations, companies and government departments who presented at CIELAP's 2nd P4S conference. Conference attendees also liked our media panel discussion led by Joe Chidley, Evan Solomon, and Sergio Jellinek.

Following the success of our 2nd *Partnering for Sustainability* conference, we have decided to host our 3rd *Partnering for Sustainability* conference a year earlier on October 27 and 28, 2005 in Toronto. This year's focus is Urban Sustainability and will feature panels on transportation, waste, growth and energy.

The 3rd *Partnering for Sustainability* conference is planned as a stepping-stone for the 2006 World Urban Forum.

To get an idea of what CIELAP's *Partnering for Sustainability* conferences are like:

Download the program from *Partnering for Sustainability 2* – <http://www.cielap.org/sustainability2004.pdf>.

View the proceedings from our 2nd *Partnering for Sustainability* conference at <http://www.cielap.org/p4s1.html>

View the proceeding from our 1st *Partnering for Sustainability* conference at <http://www.cielap.org/partnering/>.

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CIELAP's 35th Anniversary

Yes, CIELAP is 35 years young! Over the years CIELAP has contributed to vital and significant changes in environmental policy in Canada.

Many of you reading this newsletter are alumni – volunteers, staff, board members – of the organization. Come and celebrate with us. Tell us what you have been up to since your days at CIELAP.

CIELAP is celebrating its 35th Anniversary on October 27, 2005 at the King Edward hotel in Toronto. All are invited. We would especially be interested to reconnect with all our alumni.

For more information about our 35th Anniversary, please contact Lana Nikolova at (416) 923-3529 ext. 26 or interns@cielap.org.

If you would like to contribute financially to the 35th Anniversary celebration or to CIELAP, please contact us at (416) 923-3529 ext. 26, or write to us at: 130 Spadina Avenue, Suite 305, Toronto, ON M5V 2L4. You can also make a donation through CIELAP's website www.cielap.org - just look for the *Canada Helps* button.

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Upcoming Projects

CIELAP is currently working on:

Emission trading comparison between Europe and Canada;

Pharmaceuticals and personal care products in water;

Chemical liability regimes;

Our 35th Anniversary; and

Our 3rd Partnering for Sustainability conference (P4S3).

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Interns and Volunteers

During the month of May, CIELAP welcomed four new interns – Jenny Greenop, Michael Berends, Yuriko Yagi and Jeanne Castellanos.

Jenny Greenop is a student at the Innis College Environmental Studies Program at the University of Toronto. She will be helping us with organizing the 3rd Partnering for Sustainability Conference and CIELAP's 35th Anniversary Reception.

Michael Berends is a graduate student in the European Postgraduate Course in Environmental Management from the University of Amsterdam. He also holds an MSc specializing in conservation biology from the University of Toronto. While at CIELAP, Michael will be working on a research paper comparing the emission trading systems in Canada and Europe.

Yuriko Yagi is a law student from Japan who has experience working as a youth counsellor. While at CIELAP, she will be developing our youth leadership program and identifying funders for the program.

Jeanne Castellanos is a student at the University of Toronto specializing in Urban, Economic and Social Geography. At CIELAP she will work on developing an information booklet to accompany our Hazardous Waste Maps for Ontario.

We would like to say thanks and good luck to Jonathan Mee, one of our current volunteers, who will be leaving CIELAP at the beginning of June to begin work as an Ontario Stewardship Rangers Leader with the Ministry of Natural Resources. Jon began volunteering with CIELAP in January after completing his MSc in Zoology at the University of Toronto. He has been working on updating the database, helping with fundraising, and helping to organize Think Link V, the fifth annual meeting of independent Canadian think tanks.

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For questions, comments and more information about the content of this newsletter, please contact Iana Nikolova at interns@cielap.org.

We hope you have enjoyed this newsletter; we enjoy sharing our work with you. If, however, you prefer not to receive CIELAP's newsletters in the future, please e-mail cielap@cielap.org with "unsubscribe" in the subject.