

Advancing the Environmental Agenda

**CANADIAN INSTITUTE
FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL
LAW AND POLICY**

**ANNUAL REPORT
2003 – 2004**



**CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY**

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

Our Organization

Founded in 1970, CIELAP has established itself as one of a handful of Canadian organizations that have the competence, the resources and the capabilities to conduct research on environmental law and policy. For 34 years CIELAP has provided leadership in the research and development of environmental law and policy. Since its inception, the institute's research has promoted the public interest and sustainability.

Our extensive experience and research allows us to identify environmental issues and concerns long before they appear on the public radar. Identifying issues, however, is only half the battle. The institute strives to work with all stakeholders toward the development of comprehensive policy solutions.

Environmental policy cannot be developed in isolation. Sound policy needs the input and contribution of all stakeholders – the governments, the private sector, and the public. In addition to our research, we facilitate multi-stakeholder interactions through focused events. We organize conferences and events that promote dialogue on environmental sustainability.

Message From The Chair & Executive Director

Dear Friends of CIELAP

As you may remember, in the fall of this year under review we held a fundraising reception and gave our Award for Advancing the Environmental Agenda to Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. We had a lively gathering at the King Edward Hotel in downtown Toronto. The Prime Minister graciously accepted our Award and stated, "he was honoured CIELAP would applaud his government's Kyoto Protocol policy initiative."

This year our Award will go to David Schindler, University of Alberta, Zenon Environmental Inc, and the Waterkeepers for their contributions in the area of water protection. Water has been one of the focuses of CIELAP over the past year. Along with the Canadian Environmental Law Association and Great Lakes United, we are establishing a network of political champions through our Great Lakes for the Future project.

During the past year we have been busy and active on other files as well: Pollution Prevention and the National Pollutant Release Inventory; biotechnology and hazardous waste. You can read about these activities elsewhere in this annual report.

At our Annual Planning Session early in 2004, our Board of Directors — building on discussions held at our AGM in November 2003 — initiated an issues identification process to be carried out by our Research Committee to further focus us within our program areas. Through this process we identified the need for additional contract research staff to help us develop proposals and prepare reports. We are pleased to announce that Susan Holtz and Mary MacDonald joined CIELAP in May 2004.

Through the hard work of staff and volunteers we have kept projects coming in during the year as we address the question of how to provide sustainable funding for the organization, a focus at last year's AGM. We have also, with the help of Iana Nikolova, our MBA summer intern, recently developed a business plan to help us supplement project funding with much-needed core funding to build our own capacity. In June of this year, Anicia Bonilla, Office Administrator, left CIELAP to take up other opportunities.

The Board of Directors, staff and volunteers remain committed to CIELAP's vision of a world in which basic human rights include a safe and healthy environment; and, our mission to research and develop environmental law and policy that promotes the public interest and sustainability.

In this troubled world where we are experiencing a crisis in governance in democracies, CIELAP is a breath of fresh air offering sustainable alternatives to many of the problems facing Canada and the world.

We look to you, our friends, for your support.

David Powell
President, Board of Directors

Anne Mitchell
Executive Director

CIELAP is an independent, not-for-profit research and education organization whose research provides leadership in the development of environmental law and policy. Our research promotes sustainability and the public interest.

Mission & Vision

We envision a world in which basic human rights include a safe and healthy environment, achieved through respect for, and preservation of, nature's integrity and diversity. Throughout our 34 years, CIELAP has remained dedicated to this vision.

Goals:

- 1) To promote an effective and accountable environmental legal and policy framework.
- 2) To enhance and promote environmental action on the public and political agenda.

In this year under review, CIELAP has published reports and discussion papers, organized workshops and completed projects that contribute to the realization of these goals.

Today, our vision is more relevant than ever. It is increasingly clear that unsound environmental policies can have devastating effects on the availability and quality of resources, such as water and fertile land, leading to serious economic and social problems.

On 29th September 2003, CIELAP held its 33rd Anniversary Reception. Over 300 guests came to celebrate CIELAP, including Prime Minister Jean Chrétien. CIELAP presented its first Advancing the Environmental Agenda Award to Jean Chrétien for his government's support of the Kyoto Protocol. Keynote speaker Gilbert Parent, Canada's Ambassador for the Environment and Sustainable Development, described CIELAP as, "an inspiration to Canadians."

Year in Review 2003-2004

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, upon receiving the CIELAP Award for Advancing the Environmental Agenda, said he was honoured CIELAP would applaud his government's Kyoto Protocol policy initiative.

CIELAP activities over the past year have been guided by several strategic meetings. During the CIELAP 33rd Annual General Meeting, held on 6th November 2003, we reviewed our year's activities and finances, appointed our board of directors, and discussed how to develop a more stable funding base. Key outcomes of the AGM included the need to create marketing and fund development strategies to broaden and increase the organization's funding base, develop multiyear projects, and find sponsors for our youth leadership program.

Our Annual Planning Session in February 2004 resulted in an issues identification process to be implemented by our Research Committee.

As a result of these strategic meetings, the organization has recruited top environmental policy researchers, Susan Holtz and Mary MacDonald, and has started developing a business plan that will strengthen the organization's position.

Biotechnology

In April 2004, CIELAP published *Principles for the Regulation of Products Derived from Agricultural Biotechnology*, a discussion paper on proposed principles for the regulation of food biotechnology in Canada. This publication builds on Royal Society Expert group's recommendations and lays out CIELAP views on the principles governing food biotechnology in Canada.

Pollution Prevention

In the summer of 2003, CIELAP developed two new poster size maps reflecting the latest available National Pollutant Release Inventory data to show pollution hotspots throughout Canada. The maps are available in English or French, include guides for teachers, and are available free to schools, environmental organizations, researchers and others.

In addition to participating in awareness raising workshops on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers in Brazil, Costa Rica, Malaysia and Mexico, CIELAP was represented on the National Pollutant Release Inventory Working Group. CIELAP was one of six environmental organizations nominated through the Canadian Environmental Network.

In the spring of 2004, CIELAP issued a press release following the Taking Stock Report revealing the Province of Ontario is the third worst air polluter in North America. Only North ...

Year in Review 2003-2004

Carolina and Ohio are worse. CIELAP called on the Government of Canada to ensure pollution prevention planning is part of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act review.

On 22nd March 2004, CIELAP issued a press release warning Ontarians about the health and environmental dangers of burning plastic waste in their backyards, and urging Ontario to ban backyard barrel and pit trash burning. Burning plastic bags, PVC waste, plastic bottles, and containers, releases cancer-causing dioxins, furans, polyaromatic, benzene hydrocarbons, heavy metals and other pollutants into the air, eventually falling back to earth, contaminating plants, soil and water.

Sustainability

In the fall of 2003, CIELAP Executive Director, Anne Mitchell, was one of four NGO representatives to meet with the Export Development Corporation's Advisory Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility.

Late in 2003, CIELAP participated in a foreign policy review, focusing on sustainable development. CIELAP comments – *Response to a Dialogue on Foreign Policy* – are available on our website.

In March 2004, CIELAP proposed to partner with the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA) to develop a multi-year environmental law and policy project in South Africa. The project will utilize and expand CIELAP expertise in transferring knowledge and building capacity with NGOs in developing countries. Representatives from WESSA will be in Canada in September 2004 to develop this program.

On 13th-14th May 2004, CIELAP co-hosted the Partnering for Sustainability II Conference in Toronto. The conference included presentations from the UN Development Programme, UN Environment Programme, the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, Suncor, Walker Industries, Michael Jantzi Research Associates, Auditor General Office, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Environment Canada, and Industry Canada. Delegates from the public and private sectors, NGOs, academia, media and civil society attended the conference.

Water

On 3rd March 2004, CIELAP issued a press release pointing out that while the United States focuses on Great Lakes clean-up, Canada is falling further behind, failing to live up to agreements signed as far back as 1994. Only two of 17 Areas of Concern on the Canadian side of the border have been cleaned up. CIELAP called on the Canadian and Ontario governments to immediately restore funding to clean-up the remaining 15 Areas of Concern in Ontario.

On 28th April 2004, CIELAP appeared before the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development on Great Lakes Concerns. A Standing Order in the House of Commons was introduced urging Ottawa to act on CIELAP recommendations: conversion of tax incentives to promote sustainable practices; pollution prevention plans for industrial discharges to waste water treatment plants; and, restoration of funding for clean-up and monitoring of remaining heavily polluted areas of the Great Lakes by 2015.

CIELAP continued its research on water issues, producing a number of papers: *Drinking Water Quality in the Grand River Watershed*, *A Comparative Study of Drinking Water Quality Standards and Guidelines*, and *Revenue Raising for Source Protection* are on our website.

In collaboration with other members of the Blue Group – a coalition of US and Canadian Great Lakes NGOs – CIELAP continued its involvement in water protection issues in the Canadian Great Lakes. The Coalition produced five Fact Sheets on Great Lakes issues. These papers were distributed at the Great Lakes Reception at Queen's Park for Members of the Ontario Provincial Parliament and their representatives on 16th June 2004. A similar reception is scheduled for the fall of 2004 on Parliament Hill.

In the spring of 2004, CIELAP researcher Jolanta Rasteniene was invited to sit on the core advisory group of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME). CCME is engaged in the development of a Canada-wide strategy for Municipal Wastewater Effluent. Currently, CIELAP is reviewing municipal wastewater management policies across Canada and will come up with a paper shortly.

Public and Community Outreach

In the fall of 2003, CIELAP worked with York University and the Toronto District School Board developing a grade ten civics curriculum on environment and climate change. CIELAP contributed three components: a Policy Primer, a Glossary of Environmental Actions, and Case Studies of Environmental NGO's.

Also in the fall of 2003, CIELAP hosted a delegation from the Environmental and Resources Protection Committee of the National People's Congress of Jiangxi Province in China. The delegation was studying environmental protection in Ontario and Canada, and the work of CIELAP.

In November 2003, CIELAP participated in the Americas Trade and Sustainable Development Forum at the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) Trade Ministerial Meeting in Miami. CIELAP research associate Stella Bastidas facilitated a workshop on Mechanisms for Public Participation in the FTAA. Participants recommended the creation of a permanent consultative committee for civil society access within the FTAA. Article 28 of the resulting *Ministerial Declaration* supported this proposal by opening the way for the creation of a civil society consultative committee within the FTAA.

From 31st March – 2nd April 2004, Anne Mitchell attended the Globe 2004 conference in Vancouver. Fascinating water and energy saving technologies and 1,500 delegates made up the conference with little discussion on changing our lifestyles.

CIELAP staff also participated in and/or with the following during the year in review: Base Metal Smelting Workshop, Sediment Control Workshop, Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Workshop, Vinyl Council Public Advisory Committee, New Directions Group on Energy, Canadian Biotechnology Advisory Committee, National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI), and United Church Policy Development regarding agricultural products of biotechnology.

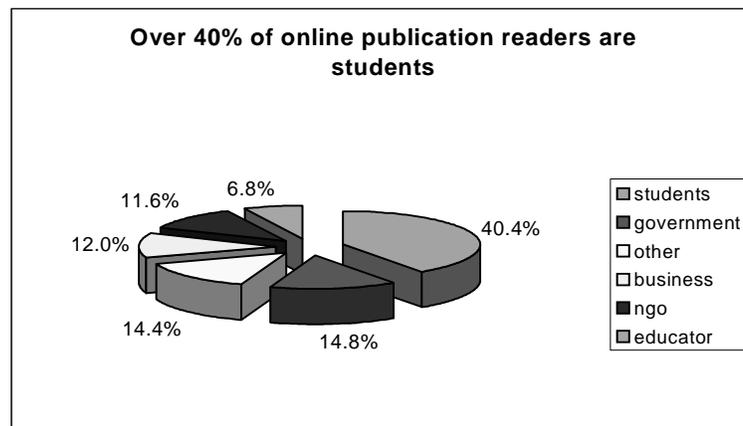
Website Statistics (July 2003–June 2004)

Almost 70-percent of CIELAP website traffic is generated by the downloading of our research reports and over 1,300 research articles are downloaded weekly by website visitors from Canada, the United States, and all over the world.

Total Hosts Served (July 2003-June 2004)	54,456
Average Distinct Hosts per month	4,538
Total number of PDF downloads	66,604
Average number of PDF downloads per month	5,550
PDF downloads as average percentage of traffic	63
Total Hits	1,124,152

Most popular downloads: *A Municipal Guide to Wind Power Development in Ontario*, *Drinking Water Quality Standards in Ontario*, *Ontario: Open for Toxics*, *A Citizen's Guide to Biotechnology*, and our French edition of *A Citizen's Guide to the National Pollutant Release Inventory*.

About 40% of the registered users of CIELAP publications are students. Government (14.8%), business (12%), NGOs (11.6%), educators (6.8%) and other (14.4%) make up the rest of the CIELAP readership. CIELAP publications are available at www.cielap.org.



Media

In 2003, CIELAP was acknowledged in print, on radio and TV 156 times.

Year in Review Youth Leadership 2003-2004

Over the past year, 17 students from six Canadian Universities completed internships at CIELAP. Their education backgrounds ranged from environmental studies, geography, biology and biotechnology to law and business administration. Our interns have gone on to careers with Environment Canada, City of Toronto, Ministry of the Environment, Environmental Commissioner Office, The Body Shop, International Development Research Centre, and The United Nations.

CIELAP's reputation for youth leadership is reflected in the interest our publications generate among students. Over 40 percent of our publications are downloaded and read by students from a variety of disciplines and countries.

CIELAP was a great training ground for me in so many areas. I was always encouraged to explore my interests.

Sara Bjorkquist
WHO, Switzerland
Former CIELAP Intern

Focusing on 2004-2005: Upcoming Projects & Events

Upcoming projects and events in 2004-2005 include: the South Africa Partnership Project; a discussion paper on the state of the sustainability debate in Canada updating *Sustainable Development in Canada: A New Federal Plan* (2001); updating *Citizen's Guide to Pollution Prevention* in partnership with the Canadian Centre for Pollution Prevention; research on water and pharmaceuticals; and ongoing work on Great Lakes issues and biotechnology.

On 28th October 2004, CIELAP will hold its 34th AGM & Anniversary Reception. The 2004 Awards for Advancing the Environmental Agenda will be presented to David Schindler, University of Alberta; Zenon Environmental Inc; and, the Waterkeepers.

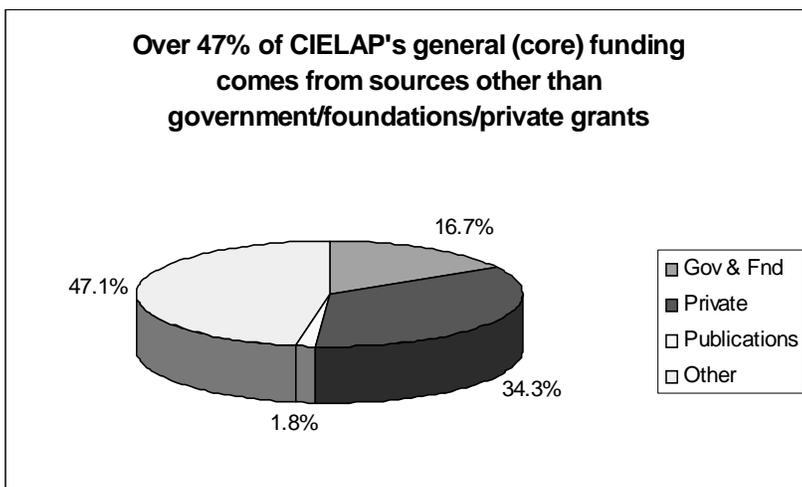
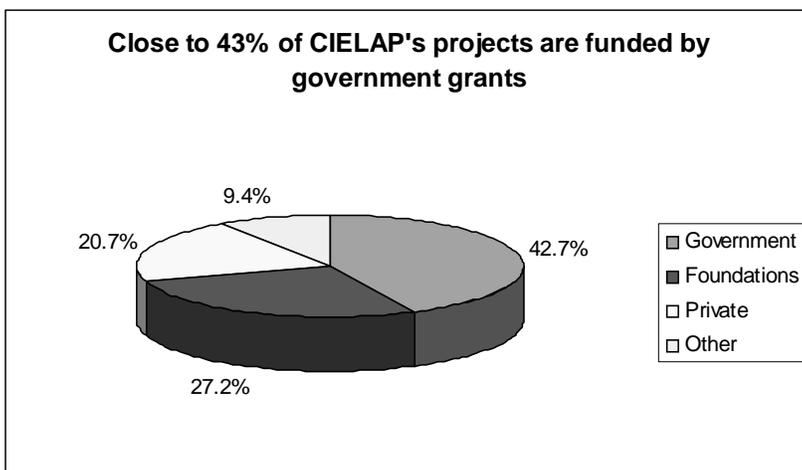
On 3rd November 2004, CIELAP, in collaboration with the Canadian Environmental Law Association and the Great Lakes Union, will host the Great Lakes Reception on Parliament Hill.

Financials

During fiscal 2003, CIELAP revenue was \$250,000. Nearly \$200,000 of this revenue was for CIELAP research projects.

During this year in review, CIELAP projects were funded primarily by grants from the government and foundations. Increasingly, a significant part of the project funding also comes from private donations to projects such as research on hazardous waste.

CIELAP does not receive core funding from any organization. Unlike our project funding, less than 17% of CIELAP core funding comes from government and foundations grants. Over 34% of our core funding comes from private donations. Publications, which are available to download for free online, account for less than 2% of our core funding. The majority of CIELAP funding for core operations comes from miscellaneous sources, such as royalties.



Government Departments & Agencies

Environment Canada
Department of Foreign Affairs
Human Resources Development
Canada
Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Industry Canada
International Development Research
Centre

Foundations

David Suzuki Foundation
EJLB Foundation
Joyce Foundation
J W McConnell Family Foundation
Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation

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Canadian Plastics Industry Association
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Ontario Power Generation
Parc Inc. Parc Downsview
Suncor Energy Inc.

Organizations

Algonquin Wildlands League
Canadian Bar Association
Canadian Environmental Law
Association
Canadian Environmental Network
Commission For Environmental
Cooperation
Community Experience Initiative
Conservation Authority Toronto &
Region
Environmental Defense Canada
Foodshare Toronto
International Union for the
Conservation of Nature
Ontario Waste Management
Association
Pollution Probe
Sierra Legal Defense Fund
Toronto District School Board

United Church of Canada
University of Toronto
Vinyl Council of Canada

Individuals

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Greg Allen
Douglas Anglin
Bob Bach
James Bakos
James Bradley
Keir Brownstone
Paul Bubelis
Phillip Byer
Charles Caccia
Marlene Cashing
Joe Castrilli
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Dorothy Davidson
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Jane E. Wright
Eve Wyatt
& Anonymous Donors

**Thank You
To Our
Supporters**

CIELAP People

Board of Directors & Staff

At our AGM in November 2003, CIELAP said farewell to three board members: Nicola Crawhall, Carol Lynn Wallace and John Vincett who left the board to take up other challenges. We thank them for their dedication to and support of CIELAP. We wish them well and know they will remain within the CIELAP extended family.

At the same time, we welcomed Nicole Geneau and Lisa King to our Board. They joined Jennifer Hooper, Rob Kerr, Marjorie Lamb, Ellie Perkins, David Powell, Pamela Robinson and Anne Mitchell.

During the year under review, Jennifer Hooper resigned from the Board of Directors and Michael Cochrane and Michelle Kassel joined the Board. In May 2004, we welcomed researchers Susan Holtz and Mary Macdonald to our staff. Iana Nikolova also joined us in May 2004 as an intern and is remaining with us. In June 2004, Anicia Bonilla, Office Administrator, left CIELAP to take up other opportunities.

We thank all those who have left and welcome those who have joined us.

Board of Directors 2003-2004

Michael Cochrane
Nicole Geneau
Michelle Kassel
Rob Kerr
Lisa King
Marjorie Lamb
Anne Mitchell
Ellie Perkins
David Powell
Pamela Robinson

Staff 2003-2004

Anne Mitchell, Executive Director
Jolanta Rasteniene, Projects
Anicia Bonilla, Office Administrator
Susan Holtz, Research
Mary MacDonald, Research
Steve Kotze, Accounts

Research Associates 2003-2004

Ravenna Barker
Estella Bastidas
Satya Mohapatra
Aysa September
Michelle Swenarchuk

Interns 2003-2004

Alesha Breckenridge, University of Toronto
Olivia Chan, Northern Secondary School
Genee Gomes, University of Toronto
Ingrid Harris, University of Toronto
Kate Hoepfel, University of Toronto
Lillian Hopkins, York University
Josh Learner, University of Toronto
Allison Marjerrison, Niagara College
Andrea McDowel, University of Toronto

Michael Migus, Osgoode Law School
Amanda Mungeon, University of Toronto
Iana Nikolova, Schulich School of Business
Karen Saarkoppel, University of Waterloo
Lori Tesolin, University of Toronto
Manu Tun, Niagara College
Bryan Valve, Niagara College
Joyce Yang, University of Toronto

Volunteers 2003-2004

Josephine Archbold
Sharla Brynn Bandoquillo, Osgoode Law School
Eileen Basso
Alana Brooker, Osgoode Law School
Olivia Chan
John Ryan Gumabay
Julius Gumabay
Megan Hibbert
Michael Homs
Andrew Kinoshita
Beth Koster
Tatiana Koveshnikova
Joanna Kozakiewicz
Winnie Luk, Osgoode Law School
Alyson Marjerrison
Tara Narwani
David Newel
Andrea Oppedisano
Meredith Rose, Osgoode Law School
Kerry Swanson
Bryan Valve
Carissa Wong
Nicole Worsely
Joyce Yang
Jesse Zuker

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