Fall 2002 Newsletter

What's New?

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD)

As you know, Anne Mitchell, CIELAP’s Executive Director travelled to Johannesburg, South Africa in September to attend the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). Anne spent 2 weeks meeting with delegates at the Summit, followed by another 2 weeks travelling through South Africa and Swaziland. She met many farmers, members of food co-ops and government officials from around the world. In case you missed the emails, Anne’s diary entries from her trip to South Africa can be found at http://www.cielap.org/whatsnew/summit.html. For additional information about Summit outcomes, please visit www.johannesburgsummit.org.

CIELAP’s Annual General Meeting - "Maintaining the WSSD Momentum"
November 12, 2002, Friends House
60 Lowther Avenue, Toronto

Now that the WSSD is over, and the Canadian delegation is compiling its outcomes and implications for Canada, we would like to invite you to CIELAP’s Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, November 12th in Toronto. CIELAP is seeking your advice as it plans its research agenda for the next two years. We will be putting together an expert panel of NGO, government and industry representatives who attended the WSSD. The floor will be open to all attendees in order to share perspectives and suggestions to help craft CIELAP’s program, and offer concrete ways to keep government and industry accountable to the promises made at the WSSD.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at Friends House, 60 Lowther Avenue (at Bedford) in Toronto. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Anicia at 416-923-3529 x28, by November 6th. Please mark the date in your calendars!

Green Power Trade Show - October 28 and 29, 2002

Come see "Getting to Kyoto with Green Power" at Canada’s 3rd Annual Green Power Trade Show! This year's show, open free to the public, will be held on October 28-29th, 2002 at the Westin Harbour Castle in Toronto. As always, the show will be held in conjunction with the
New Releases

Sustainability Impact Assessment of the Earth Summit @ 10: A Canadian Perspective

Prior to the WSSD, CIELAP released a paper entitled "Sustainability Impact Assessment of the Earth Summit @ 10: A Canadian Perspective". The paper, written by Senior Legal Policy Analyst Christine Elwell, is based on the WSSD draft plan of action, which aims to "promote the three components of sustainable development – economic development, social development and environmental protection – as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars." The plan alludes to the need for Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) of trade agreements but specifies simply that they are to be conducted at national levels.

The purpose of the research paper is to outline the main elements considered necessary for effective and creditable sustainable assessment of trade agreements. SIAs can be a key instrument for identifying where trade liberalization and environment policies can be inherently supportive (so-called ‘win-win’ solutions). They can also be used to identify where they can be made mutually supportive and where they are not and cannot be mutually supportive.

The paper reviews both European and North American initiatives from a government, inter-governmental and civil society organization perspective and outlines the major elements of a good SIA of current and proposed trade rules. CIELAP intends to conduct a workshop at the Toronto World Social Forum events in January, 2003 to apply the SIA methodology to current Free Trade Area for the Americas. Volunteers to help develop the workshops are welcome.

Staff Changes

Farewell To Corey

Corey Diamond, CIELAP's Project Officer, is moving on. We are happy for Corey, but we will miss him dearly. Corey has done a lot of work on the new NPRI maps and helping to rebuild the Pollution Watch website. We thank him for his commitment to the organization and wish him the best of luck in the future in all his endeavours. Happy Trails Corey!

New Board Members

CIELAP is please to announce the appointment of three new Board members:
Ralph Torrie
Ralph Torrie is one of Canada's leading energy analysts and proponents of sustainable development. His twenty years of entrepreneurial and consulting experience covers a wide range of initiatives in research, organizational and business development, and facilitation of national and international projects. With the David Suzuki Foundation, he has recently developed scenarios for cutting Canada's greenhouse gas emissions by more than 50% by the year 2030. He is currently a consultant with Torrie Smith Associates.

Carol Lynne Wallace
Carol Lynne Wallace is currently the EcoAction Team Manager at Earth Day Canada, and brings her considerable experience in fundraising to the CIELAP Board of Directors. In the past, she has acted as the Project Coordinator of the Community University Research Alliance (CURA), Fundraiser for the Shout Clinic and Acting Executive Director for Environmental Defence Canada.

Jennifer Hooper
Jennifer Hooper is the Director of Safety, Health and the Environment at Dupont Canada. We met Jennifer when we were organizing the Partnering for Sustainability conference in April 2002. Jennifer has led the development and implementation of the 10-year strategic plan for Business Sustainability at Dupont, providing leadership to over 35 environmental directors across many business sectors. She is a well-known and respected environmentalist in the corporate world.

Interns and Volunteers

This summer, CIELAP was happy to have two hard-working interns to help us with some of our projects. Louise Simpson, a student at the University of Toronto, helped to coordinate CIELAP’s contribution to Environment Canada’s Municipal Waste Water consultations. Kirk Moss, a student at Ryerson Polytechnic's School of Journalism, helped with the media and communications strategy for a number of our projects. Thanks to Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) for providing the funding for these two great helpers!

As always, this summer, the CIELAP office was bursting with volunteers. Below is a list of those that contributed their time to us:

Tristan Lees - Green Power Trade Show
Rebecca Grump - Green Power Trade Show
Carmelina Macario - Hazardous Waste
Ingrid Harris - Hazardous Waste
Victor Gao - Municipal Waste Water consultation
Jolanta Rasteniene - Municipal Waste Water consultation
Ravenna Barker - Fundraising
Angela Morris - Biotechnology and Fundraising
Laurel Murray - Everything (!)

Currently, we have two new key interns/volunteers from the University of Toronto: Christina Wong and Eileen Basso. Welcome aboard!
CIELAP Needs You in 2002!

As a non-profit environmental research organization, our work depends upon the funds we raise through our individual, corporate, foundation and governmental supporters. Every dollar you give to CIELAP goes directly to advancing the environmental agenda in Canada and helping 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 at (416) 923-3529 x28 or send a cheque or credit card number to:

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CANADA

Thank you!!