



CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY

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Summer 2003 Newsletter

What's New?

New NPRI Poster Maps Illustrate Pollution Hotspots

Two new poster size maps, in French and English, using the latest available National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI) data to show pollution hotspots throughout Canada, along with Guides for teachers, have been developed by CIELAP. The posters present the top releases and transfers of waste by facilities across Canada, show a summary of releases, transfers and recycling of wastes by province. We are offering free copies (a charge will apply for postage and handling) of the posters to schools (Junior Map and Senior Map), environmental organizations, researchers and others.

You can view samples or order maps online at www.cielap.org

Water

CIELAP continues with its research on water issues. Through the Sustainable Toronto project, we have recently completed a case study entitled Drinking Water Quality in the Grand River Watershed and also a Comparative Study of Drinking Water Quality Standards and Guidelines. These papers will be on our website soon.

Foreign Policy Review

CIELAP participated in the recent foreign policy review, focusing on sustainable development. Our comments – CIELAP's Response to a Dialogue on Foreign Policy are on our website.

Base Metal Smelting Workshop

Jolanta Rasteniene, a CIELAP research associate, attended Environment Canada's National Consultation on the Environmental Performance of Base Metals Smelting Sector, on February 27-28, 2003, in Ottawa. The purpose of the workshop was to exchange information and advice on the development and implementation of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act 1999* toxics management strategies, to review the environmental performance of the Base Metals Smelting Sector, and to review the Draft Environmental Code of Practices for Base Metals Smelters and Refineries. For further information please contact the National Office of Pollution Prevention, Minerals and Metals Division. (www.ec.gc.ca/nopp/metals)

Sediment Control Workshop

Satya Mohapatra, a CIELAP research associate, presented his paper, “*Lake Ontario water quality: is it affected by contaminant transfer by soil erosion and sediment transport from construction sites?*” at the Sediment Control Workshop organized by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA). The paper pertained to chemicals used in the construction industry and possible contamination of water bodies through erosion of contaminated soils and sedimentation. As most of the chemicals used in the construction industry have potential health hazards and a few of them are known carcinogens, it was suggested that governments and the industry jointly take up studies to quantify the amount of contaminant load from the construction industry, monitor soil erosion maintenance, monitor surface water quality near major construction projects, and evaluate the potential of ground water pollution due to impoundment facilities.

The paper is available at the web site www.cielap.org

INTRODUCING our new interns and volunteers :

Joyce Yang, (intern), an Innis College student working on her BA in English & Environmental Studies. She will be helping with CIELAP’s public awareness and community engagement program.

Maung Tun, (intern), a Chartered Chemist and a member of the Association of the Chemical Profession of Ontario. He is currently completing the Environmental Management & Assessment Program at Niagara College of Applied Arts & Technology. His contribution would be to review the current state of the debate on waste issues in Ontario and Canada.

Tara Narwani, (volunteer), holds a Master of Science-Botany from University of Toronto and recently finished her Freelance writing course at Ryerson University . She will be investigating the establishment of covenants between the federal government and large industrial emitters of greenhouse gases to achieve the required reductions of these pollutants under the Kyoto Protocol.

Andrea Oppedisano- (volunteer), a sophomore student from University of Toronto working on her BA in Environmental Studies and International Relations. Andrea is helping CIELAP with fundraising and administration.

University of Toronto Class INI 444 Helps CIELAP

Another successful year for implementing our Strategic Plan’s Youth Leadership program was triumphed by our very own Board member, Pamela Robinson and E.D., Anne Mitchell. CIELAP was fortunate to showcase some bright students from University of Toronto through Innis College Sustainability courses. These students helped with research for CIELAP’s governance for sustainability program over the winter and spring of 2003. The students worked on several research topics with a public engagement theme. Their papers are

available on the CIELAP website (www.cielap.org) and made available to promote the discourse on governance for sustainability.

CIELAP would like to extend our thanks and congratulations to:

Renee Gomes & Lori Tesolin – co-authored “*Sustainability Partnerships: Moving from Goodwill to Action; A guide to creating a Meaningful Partnerships for Sustainable Development*”

Josh Learner – for writing the report on “*Beyond Civil Society, Public Engagement Alternatives for Canadian Trade Policy*”.

Andrea McDowel – wrote the SIA paper “*A Framework for NGO-Organised, Community-Based Sustainability Impact Assessment of Trade Policy*”

Alesha Breckenridge and **Kate Hoeppe** - co-authored the report on Biotechnology- “*Involving the Public in the Canadian Biotechnology Policy Process*”

Amanda Mungeon – for contribution to a much needed “*Youth Engagement*” report.

Special mention is also extended to the following people for their dedication and support:

Ingrid Harris - co-authored *Open for Toxics Report*

Ravenna Barker - monitoring foundations, writing grant proposals

Satya Mohapatra - (former intern) water quality issues

Sustainability for CIELAP – means - Fundraising Time

What's with this behind-the-scenes chatter? Yes, you guessed it. It's fundraising time and we'd like to hit you up for dough. Many of our friends have already given generously (you know who you are!) and we'd like to say for the record that you are really swell. As for everyone else, we know your intentions are good. You'll spare what you can to keep the CIELAP boat afloat, won't you?

CIELAP's Board of Directors recognizes that for CIELAP to be sustainable we need to develop and diversify our funding base. With that in mind, David Powell, the President of CIELAP wrote to some of CIELAP's supporters urging them to support the work of the organization. CIELAP will continue with its fundraising efforts over the summer and into the fall. We are planning a Fundraising Dinner in September. Please stay tuned for further details and plan to come out and support the work of CIELAP.

Summer Solstice Party

For the past few years CIELAP has held a summer sail as a fun event and raised some funds. This year, the Board has decided that we will instead hold a summer solstice party. This will be held at one of the Board member's home on **Wednesday, June 25**, Space is limited, so please let us know if you would like to attend. We are asking those who attend to contribute \$40.00 or more, \$20.00 to cover food, drinks and entertainment and \$20.00 or more as a donation to CIELAP. You will receive a tax receipt for the donation portion. Please respond to abonilla@cielap.org for more details.

Got Your Tax Refund Yet?

Consider us for your tax refund this year! Why not consider making life a little better for CIELAP or another charity of your choice, by committing a portion of your tax refund to us? And you will receive a **tax deductible receipt for the 2003 tax year!**

“If every Canadian who had made an RRSP contribution in 1999 had committed one-half of the tax savings to charity, this would have provided an additional \$4.65 billion to charities in Canada” (Tim Cesnick, CA).

Proud to be a Friend of CIELAP!

“Currently, I am a financial supporter because even though I cannot be physically involved with the great work being accomplished at CIELAP, I still wanted to be a part of the organization and help reach the goals of protecting our environment and enhancing the wellness of the community. I know my donation will be put to great use. “
(Angelica Guillarte, Former CIELAP Intern)

***From all of us at CIELAP to all of you –
HAVE A GREAT SUMMER....***