

\*PEI Eco-Net E-News\*

Weekly News & Events Bulletin

for the Prince Edward Island Eco-Net de l'Ile-du-Prince-Edouard \*June 8  
- 15, 2007\*

\*Mark your calendars...\*

PEI Eco-Net AGM

June 20th, 2007 (11AM - 1PM)

At the Eco-Net office (126 Richmond Street, Charlottetown) Lunch will  
be provided Guest speaker to be announced

\*NEWS\*

\*LOCAL\*

1.1 Island should do more to protect fish: conservationist

1.2 Turning Potato peelings into Power

1.3 Organic potato plot staked out for long-term study at federal farm

1.4 Island's tuna allocation slashed

1.5 Windmills churning out power

1.6 Georgetown uncertain about ethanol plant

\*NATIONAL\*

2.1 Stanley Park's downed trees at core of art project

2.2 Nunavut light-bulb ban 'a good publicity stunt,' MLA charges

2.3 Opposition rejects Green party call for carbon tax

2.4 Organic food still leaves environmental footprint: study

2.5 Ontario Liberals accused of delaying water tests

\*INTERNATIONAL\*

3.1 Blame coal: Texas leads carbon emissions

3.2 China Releases Climate Change Plan

3.3 Delta islands may become first casualties of warming

3.4 Public concern over climate change jumps-survey

3.5 Amnesty to webcast satellite images of Darfur

3.6 Chernobyl Area becomes Wildlife Haven

\*NOTICEBOARD\*

▪ LABOUR START calls for a ction Appeals regarding Costa Rica, Chile and Mexico ▪ Download a free copy of Green Teacher magazine (until July 1, 2007)

\*JUNE\*

▪ Native Tree & Shrubs walk (June 9, 2007) ▪ Human Rights Accompaniment Training (June 14-17, 2007) ▪ Call for Entires: Planet in Focus Film Fest (DEADLINE: June 15, 2007)

▪ Lecture: Understanding Islands: Myths, Metaphors, Images from Gotland to PEI (June 20, 2007)

▪ Sierra Club - Atlantic Chapter Annual Gathering 2007 (June 22 - 24, 2007) ▪ Interim Oil Sands consultation (Submitted by: June 30, 2007) ▪ CCNB Action Alert - Irving Oil Refinery Project in NB (Deadline: June 30, 2007)

\*JULY\*

▪ Otesha Project Bike Tour looking for enviro organizations' help

\*Quote\*

"Worrying is less work than doing something to fix the worry. Everybody wants to save the earth; nobody wants to help Mom with the dishes."

~ P.J. O'Rourke

\*This week in History\*

June 8, 1992 - The first World Ocean Day is celebrated, coinciding with the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

\*NEWS\*

\*LOCAL\*

#### 1.1 ISLAND SHOULD DO MORE TO PROTECT FISH: CONSERVATIONIST

Prince Edward Island's efforts to protect wild Atlantic salmon are being criticized by conservationists. Conservation groups from around the world are meeting this week in Bar Harbor, Maine, to talk about what is and isn't being done to protect the species. P.E.I. is home to valuable salmon spawning runs and a recreational fishery, and should monitor the number of fish that return to spawn on the Island, Scott said. The latest report card from the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization gives the United States a perfect score for its efforts to protect the fish, while Canada barely received a passing grade. In many areas, the wild Atlantic salmon is endangered despite efforts to protect the species. Some conservationists say the species is on the brink of extinction.

CBC

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/prince-edward-island/story/2007/06/04/pe-fish.html06/05/07>

- 9:53AM

## 1.2 TURNING POTATO PEELINGS INTO POWER

Potato processor Cavendish Farms expects to save as many as 10 million litres of heating oil per year by turning potato peelings into energy at a plant backed with a \$14-million provincial loan. The New Annan factory, opened by New Brunswick-based J.D. Irving, is slated to be the site of a bio-gas facility that will make fuel from the decomposition of plant waste — mostly peelings from potatoes transformed into French fries at one of the Island's largest food-processing facilities. The project is expected to cost a total of \$17 million. Of that, \$14 million is coming from the provincial government's P.E.I. Century 2000 Fund, an immigrant investor program. The money is a repayable five-year loan at an interest rate of four per cent, according to the Department of Development and Technology.

CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

<http://www.theguardian.pe.ca/index.cfm?sid=34716&sc=98>

06/05/07 - 3:23PM

## 1.3 ORGANIC POTATO PLOT STAKED OUT FOR STUDY AT FEDERAL FARM

A new organic plot is currently being staked out for planting on a section of Harrington Farm, located along Brackley Point Road. The research trial is being conducted on a far greater and concerted scale than the organic studies that have taken place here over the past six or so years. The potatoes will be grown on a four-year rotation with a host of fall cover (winter rape, clover and alfalfa, to name a few) and a range of alternate crops, including soybeans, canola and brown mustard. Seven of eight treatments will be organic with one treatment conventional to allow scientifically valid comparisons. The scientists will be able to see how the transition from conventional to organic occurs and what types of changes happen in the soil system in terms of the microbes and nutrients.

CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

<http://www.theguardian.pe.ca/index.cfm?sid=34672&sc=98>

06/05/07 - 3:23PM

## 1.4 ISLAND'S TUNA ALLOCATION SLASHED

After years of banner landings off the Island's shores - bad news awaits tuna fishers preparing to launch their boats this August. Canada's overall quota was slashed and so was the Island's. "This is no surprise, I was expecting it," said Walter Bruce, chair of the P.E.I. Tuna Advisory Committee, representing as many as 360 Island tuna fishers. Last year Island tuna fishers caught approximately 250 tonnes. This year the best they can hope for is a shade under 148 tonnes, says Bruce, based in North Lake, who was the industry rep at a recent

meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), held in Croatia. Several tuna-fishing countries are deeply concerned about falling catches and rampant over-fishing, especially in the Mediterranean.

JOURNAL PIONEER

<http://www.journalpioneer.com/index.cfm?sid=35637&sc=118>

06/08/07 - 9:32AM

#### 1.5 WINDMILLS CHURNING OUT POWER

The first 11 windmills in Ventus Energy's West Cape wind farm are generating electricity. Since completing the installation of the turbines in West Cape, the cranes moved to Norway, just outside of Tignish, where three V-90 turbines were installed. The Norway substation is now energized and the first of the turbines is ready to go into pre-commissioning tests. Its expected that the turbines will be generating power by the end of next week.

The V-90 turbines each have a capacity to generate three megawatts of power while each of the V-80 turbines at West Cape can generate 1.8 megawatts of electricity. While the company only has plans for three turbines at Norway, another 44 are planned for West Cape. Depending on the timing, additional foundations might be poured this fall, with the rest happening during the spring and summer of 2008. Delivery of components for the next 44 turbines is scheduled to commence in May 2008.

JOURNAL PIONEER

<http://www.journalpioneer.com/index.cfm?sid=35639&sc=118>

06/08/07 - 9:35AM

#### 1.6 GEORGETOWN UNCERTAIN ABOUT ETHANOL PLANT

The Mayor of Georgetown says his town needs more information before it decides whether it wants an ethanol plant built there. Agri Tech Ethanol last October announced plans to build a \$40-million facility in Georgetown that would turn sugar beets into the gasoline additive, but Mayor Peter Llewellyn said Thursday the town has received very little information from the company. Agri Tech delivered a preliminary business plan Thursday. Despite an earlier announcement that the plant would be in Georgetown, it said several possible locations were being considered. Llewellyn said based on the lack of information he has right now, he wouldn't mind if the project went somewhere else.

CBC

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/prince-edward-island/story/2007/06/08/llewellyn-ethanol.html>

06/08/07 - 9:42AM

\*NATIONAL\*

## 2.1 STANLEY PARK'S DOWNED TREES AT CORE OF ART PROJECT

The trees felled by a destructive storm in Vancouver's Stanley Park could soon be turned into art. Vancouver's parks board has put out a call for artists, ecologists and educators to create proposals for environmental art.

Storms last December blew down thousands of trees in the park, transforming the much-loved urban forest. A huge cleanup effort has begun, but the park's arts and culture co-ordinator, Jill Weaving, wants to take advantage of what happened to create art. Vancouverites have called for memorials to be made out of the trees. Artists will work with natural materials, including the trees and other plants and animals native to the park, to create their works, which could begin appearing in the park in 2007 and 2008.

CBC

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/british-columbia/story/2007/06/04/stanley-park-art.html>

06/05/07 - 9:51AM

## 2.2 NUNAVUT LIGHT-BULB BAN 'A GOOD PUBLICITY STUNT,' MLA CHARGES

Some Nunavut MLAs tried to short-circuit the territory's proposed ban on incandescent light bulbs Monday. They charge that replacing the old-fashioned bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs would not do much to cut energy consumption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Energy Minister Ed Picco announced in March that he would introduce the legislation, which would be implemented over three years starting July 1, 2008, if passed. The ban would replace about 30,000 incandescent bulbs in homes and businesses across the territory with energy-efficient compact fluorescent bulbs. In the end, legislators voted to keep the idea switched on. In a vote, 13 of the 18 MLAs present voted to support Bill 13, the Nunavut energy efficiency act.

The bill will now go to the legislative standing committee for public consultations.

CBC <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/north/story/2007/06/05/nu-lightbulb.html>

06/05/07 - 9:58AM

## 2.3 OPPOSITION REJECTS GREEN PARTY CALL FOR CARBON TAX

Elizabeth May's proposal of a \$50-per-tonne carbon tax, which could drive up gasoline prices by 12 cents per litre, drove a wedge between her Green party and the other federal opposition parties. The proposed carbon tax, which could climb to \$100 per tonne by 2020, is at the heart of a new climate change plan unveiled by May as the only way to avert a climate catastrophe.

Revenues from the new tax would be used to reduce income and payroll taxes, and to establish income supplements and other incentives to encourage deep reductions in the greenhouse gas pollution that is linked to global warming.

CANADA.COM

<http://www.canada.com/topics/news/politics/story.html?id=7810a019-41f4-4e60-bebd-64ec47d9135a&k=50270>

06/06/07 - 10:04AM

#### 2.4 ORGANIC FOOD STILL LEAVES ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT: STUDY

While organic farmers may tout the environmental benefits of food produced without pesticides, the amount of greenhouse gases emitted through shipping is about the same as with non-organic food, University of Alberta researchers suggest. The researchers encourage consumers to read labels carefully and ask retailers where the produce was grown. Information was collected from six Edmonton grocery stores and suppliers were asked about their shipping methods to calculate the emissions produced in transporting the food from the field to the grocery store. For a city the size of Edmonton, between 5,492 and 7,426 tonnes of carbon dioxide were produced for conventional produce as compared with 6,348 to 7,124 tonnes of CO2 for organic produce.

CBC <http://www.cbc.ca/consumer/story/2007/06/05/organic-shipping.html>

06/06/07 - 10:10AM

#### 2.5 ONTARIO LIBERALS ACCUSED OF DELAYING WATER TESTS

New protections for the province's drinking water are being delayed needlessly by the Ontario government, the opposition said Wednesday as the Environment Ministry analyzed test results from 36 municipalities for lead contamination. A report released Monday by the Ontario Drinking Water Advisory Council urged the government to increase regular testing for lead in drinking water, but Environment Minister Laurel Broten said she would first wait for the results of the recent tests conducted around the province. The sampling of drinking water from older homes in 36 municipalities was ordered after a similar test in London found unsafe lead levels in about a quarter of the homes that were tested.

TORONTO STAR <http://www.thestar.com/News/article/222502>

06/07/07 - 9:54AM

\*INTERNATIONAL\*

#### 3.1 BLAME COAL: TEXAS LEADS CARBON EMISSIONS

America may spew more greenhouse gases than any other country, but some states are astonishingly more prolific polluters than others. The Associated Press analyzed state-by-state emissions of carbon dioxide from 2003, the latest U.S. Energy Department numbers available. Wyoming's coal-fired power plants produce more carbon dioxide in just eight hours than the power generators of more populous Vermont do in a year. Texas, the leader in emitting this greenhouse gas, cranks out more than the next two biggest producers combined, California and Pennsylvania, which together have twice Texas' population.

YAHOO NEWS

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070602/ap\\_on\\_sc/global\\_warming\\_states;\\_ylt=AmXcBbd1vsG4xBn.11QIDtYPLBIF](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070602/ap_on_sc/global_warming_states;_ylt=AmXcBbd1vsG4xBn.11QIDtYPLBIF)

06/04/07 - 9:14AM

### 3.2 CHINA RELEASES CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN

China released its first comprehensive strategy on addressing climate change on Monday. It is a plan that calls for improving energy efficiency and controlling greenhouse gas emissions but that rejects mandatory caps on emissions that could harm the country's sizzling economy. Skip to next paragraphThe 62-page report is dense with figures and programs on subjects like reforestation, public education and improving regulatory enforcement.

But, in broad terms, the plan merely restated Beijing's position that mandatory emissions caps are unfair to China and other developing countries that are still trying to modernize and improve their living standards.

NEW YORK TIMES

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/06/04/world/asia/04cnd-china.html?hp>

06/04/07 - 9:17AM

### 3.3 DELTA ISLANDS MAY BECOME FIRST CASUALTIES OF WARMING

5,000 residents of Bethel Island could become climate change refugees, geologists say. Scientists predict the Delta's network of islands will be imperiled by the rising tides and mountain flood waters caused by global climate change. Some islands sit 25 feet below sea level, kept dry only by an aging network of fragile levees that channel snowmelt from the Sierra and hold back tidal surges from the Bay. The majority of the U.S. population lives along a coastline. In the next 50 years, rising tides are expected to swallow islands in Chesapeake Bay, drown parts of the Louisiana coast and threaten the New York subway system, recent data from the U.S. Geological Survey shows.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

<http://www.envirolink.org/external.html?itemid=200706042059370.260059>

06/05/07 - 9:44PM

### 3.4 PUBLIC CONCERN OVER CLIMATE CHANGE JUMPS-SURVEY

Global concern about climate change has risen dramatically over the last six months and consumers increasingly expect their governments to act, according to a survey published on Tuesday. The survey by the Nielsen Company and Oxford University's Environmental Change Institute, found 42 percent of global online consumers believe governments should restrict companies'

emissions of carbon dioxide and other pollutants. Those least concerned often come from countries which have the fastest growing emissions of carbon dioxide, the gas widely blamed for global warming. Although up 7 percent in six months, still only 13 percent of United States citizens -- who live in the country responsible for a quarter of global emissions of carbon dioxide -- see climate change as one of their biggest worries.

REUTERS

<http://www.reuters.com/article/homepageCrisis/idUSL04795159.CH.2400>

06/05/07 - 9:47AM

### 3.5 AMNESTY TO WEBCAST SATELLITE IMAGES OF DARFUR

Amnesty International says it is using satellite technology to monitor the war-torn Sudanese region of Darfur in a bid to prevent future attacks on civilians. The watchdog's US chapter says it is the first time human rights monitors had used such technology to track possible targets of attack, prevent future atrocities and potentially save lives. Amnesty was inviting ordinary people worldwide to help protect 12 villages considered at risk of attacks by the Government-backed Janjaweed militia by monitoring images on the project's website at [www.eyesondarfur.org](http://www.eyesondarfur.org). Larry Cox, executive director of Amnesty USA, says the group wanted to send a message to Sudanese President Omar al-Beshir that the world was watching, and urged Beshir to accept a UN mandated African Union peacekeeping force.

AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CORP

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/200706/s1944284.htm>

06/07/07 - 9:58AM

### 3.6 CHERNOBYL AREA BECOMES WILDLIFE HAVEN

Two decades after an explosion and fire at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant wildlife is returning to the region. Many assumed the 1986 meltdown of one reactor, and the release of hundreds of tons of radioactive material, would turn much of the 1,100-square-mile evacuated area around Chernobyl into a nuclear dead zone. It certainly doesn't look like one today. Dense forests have reclaimed farm fields

and apartment house courtyards. Residents, visitors and some biologists report seeing wildlife including moose and lynx rarely sighted in the rest of Europe. Birds even nest inside the cracked concrete sarcophagus shielding the shattered remains of the reactor.

WASHINGTON POST

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wpdyn/content/article/2007/06/07/AR2007060701315.html>

06/08/07 - 9:27AM

\*NOTICEBOARD\*

▪ LABOUR START calls for a ction Appeals regarding Costa Rica, Chile and Mexico Costa Rica: Chiquita sacks Workers who reported Poisoning FOR MORE INFO:

<http://www.labourstart.org/cgi-bin/solidarityforever/showcampaign.cgi?c=251>

Chile: The Strike is over, but the struggle for Justice continues FOR MORE INFO:

[http://www.labourstart.org/cgi-bin/solidarityforever/show\\_campaign.cgi?c=247](http://www.labourstart.org/cgi-bin/solidarityforever/show_campaign.cgi?c=247)

Mexico: Murder o Santiago Rafael Cruz - 1 month into the Campaign FOR MORE INFO:

[http://www.labourstart.org/cgi-bin/solidarityforever/show\\_campaign.cgi?c=232](http://www.labourstart.org/cgi-bin/solidarityforever/show_campaign.cgi?c=232)

▪ Download a free copy of Green Teacher magazine (until July 1, 2007) Green Teacher is a magazine that helps youth educators enhance environmental and global education inside and outside of schools. TO DOWNLOAD: [www.greenteacher.com/freeIssue80.html](http://www.greenteacher.com/freeIssue80.html)

▪ Que Research r ecruting participants for a focus group Seeking individuals who are self- employed and approaching retirement (two people needed for this group); and seeking people who have retired from self-employment during the last three years, and been self-employed prior to retirement for ten years.

PAYMENT: \$60.00 honoriam for participating MORE INFO: call Sandra Boswell at Que Research at 368-1817

\*JUNE\*

▪ Native Tree & Shrubs walk (June 9, 2007)

WHEN: 9AM

WHERE: Macphail Woods Nature Centre

FOR MORE INFO: call Gary Schneider, 651-2575 SPONSORED BY:

Environmental Coalition of PEI & the Sir Andrew Macphail Foundation

▪ Human Rights Accompaniment Training ( June 14-17, 2007) T he Breaking the Silence Network has hosted two previous accompaniment training sessions (2002 and 2004) and Canadian accompaniment volunteers have then worked as human rights monitors in Guatemalan communities. These volunteers and their Canadian support committees carry out various fundraising activities to support their participation in the program. Accompaniers are committed to doing educational and advocacy work upon their return to Canada.

WHEN: June 14-17, 2007

WHERE: Tatamagouche, NS June 14-17

FOR MORE INFO: Contact Beth Abbott by e-mail at: [accatl@web.ca](mailto:accatl@web.ca)

▪ Call for Entires: Planet in Focus Film Fest (DEADLINE: June 15, 2007) Canada's most acclaimed international environmental film and video festival showcases outstanding and compelling films and videos covering a broad range of environmental themes by Canadian and international filmmakers. Planet in Focus invites submissions in all genres that critically examine the concept of 'environment' and challenge current human/nature relations.

FOR MORE INFO: [www.planetinfocus.org](http://www.planetinfocus.org)

▪ Lecture 'Understanding Islands: Myths, Metaphors, Images from Gotland to PEI' (June 20, 2007)

The MA Program in Island Studies, in collaboration with the Institute of Island Studies, is pleased to welcome Dr Owe Ronstrom, Professor of Ethnology at the University of Gotland, Sweden.

WHERE: Faculty Lounge, UPEI Main Building

WHEN: 7-9PM

\*\*\*Open to the public

▪ Sierra Club - Atlantic Chapter Annual Gathering 2007 (June 22 - 24, 2007) You're invited to join us for a weekend at Camp Keir, to honour and inspire Sierra Club members and supporters and to celebrate Atlantic Canada's beautiful natural environment. Activities include: expert panel on protecting water quality, discussion on sustainable energy in Atlantic Canada, skill-building exercises to help you become a better advocate for the environment, campfires, boating, hiking, swimming, clam digging, music, field trips to a local eco-attraction, Silent auction, local vegetarian/vegan food. Attendance at all program events is open to all ages.

Everyone is welcome!

WHERE: Camp Keir (located in Canoe Cove on the south shore of beautiful Prince Edward Island.) MORE INFO or TO REGISTER:

<http://www.sierraclub.ca/atlantic/getinvolved/events/agm/aga2007.htm>

or contact Emily McMillan at 902-444-3113 or [emilym@sierraclub.ca](mailto:emilym@sierraclub.ca).

\*\*\*\*Volunteers and Donors - if you would like to help with this event, or would like to donate items for the silent auction, please contact us!

▪ Interim Oil Sands consultation (Submitted by: June 30, 2007) The multistakeholder committee includes representatives from First Nations, Métis, industry, environmental groups, as well as local, provincial and the federal governments.

The final report is scheduled to be submitted to government by June 30, 2007.

A copy of the Multistakeholder Committee Interim Report for Phase I, as well as further information related to this consultation initiative, is available on the consultation website at:

[www.oilsandsconsultations.gov.ab.ca](http://www.oilsandsconsultations.gov.ab.ca)

▪ CCNB Action Alert regarding Irving Oil Refinery Project in NB  
(Deadline:  
June 30, 2007)

Insist that Environment Minister John Baird order a full environmental impact assessment of the proposed oil refinery with a panel review. As it currently stands, he is simply requiring an environmental assessment of the wharf and breakwater that will be built to load refined petroleum products and petroleum coke onto ships bound for the US market.

MAILING ADDRESS:

Hon. John Baird  
Minister of Environment  
10 Wellington St., 28th Floor  
Gatineau, Quebec  
K1A 0H3

FOR MORE INFO: contact David Coon (Policy Director - Conservation Council of New Brunswick) phone: (506) 458-8747 or email: dcoon@conservationcouncil.ca

\*JULY\*

▪ Otesha Project Bike Tour looking for enviro organizations' help The Otesha Project organizes environmental education performances that travel by bike. It is in search of groups to present to over July & August.

POSSIBILITIES:

- To tour campgrounds/parks
- Community festivals
- Youth programs/camps
- Sports events

FOR MORE INFO: Barbara Hayes

WEBSITE: <http://www.otesha.ca/presentations/index.en.html>

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PEIEN E-News is a weekly compilation of environmental news headlines, public notices and eco-community member profiles. It is sent electronically to PEIEN members every Friday to update them on issues of interest in the environment field. If you have any comments or suggestions about this or upcoming editions, please contact the PEIEN office at 902-566-4170 or by email at: sarah.hoyles@gmail.com