



Saskatchewan
ECO-NETWORK

NETWORKNEWS

203 - 115 2nd Avenue North, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 2B1 • Phone (306) 652-1275 Fax (306) 665-2128

WASTE REDUCTION WEEK OCTOBER 18-24



Waste Reduction Week in Canada is organized by a coalition of non-government, not for profit environment groups from every Canadian province and territory. Since 2001, Waste Reduction Week in Canada has aimed to inform and engage Canadians using the theme “Too Good to Waste”.

Let's do our part to carry on the tradition and safeguard the environment by making every week Waste Reduction Week! See www.wrwcanada.com for more information. The website has downloadable Too Good to Waste kits for municipalities, schools and businesses, as well as a Waste Reduction Week poster. For paper copies of the poster or the kits, contact Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council, swrc@link.ca or call us at 306-931-3242.

CUISR INTERNSHIP WITH SEN

As part of supporting our members, SEN plans to explore the feasibility of establishing an environmental foundation, or other funding mechanism, as a way of increasing financial resources available to SK-based environmental groups. Along with SaskEnergy, the Community University Institute for Social Research (CUISR) has agreed to support SEN by offering a paid internship. The intern will contact SEN member groups and survey potential donors as part of the feasibility study. To be eligible for the internship, you must be working towards a graduate degree. To find out more about the project, and/or how to apply for the internship, please contact the SEN office at (306) 652-1275 or by e-mail at sen@link.ca. (The deadline for applications is Oct 1.)

SEN WELCOMES NEW MEMBER GROUPS

SEN welcomes three new groups to our network. **Partners FOR the Saskatchewan River Basin** is a non-profit charitable organization, made up of a network of partners committed to increasing stewardship of the river basin. PFSRB develops public awareness and education tools to teach the importance of the basin's biodiversity, creates partnerships and networks of organizations that cross political and sector boundaries, and supports action projects that people can participate in. Look for info about their upcoming conference, “Planning for Climate Variability: Floods, Drought, & Change” on Page 4.

Organic Connections is a new non-profit organization established to organize organic industry conferences, with a vision of connecting the organic community from the producer to the consumer. See Page 8 for more info about their first conference, Nov 14-16/04.

Quint is a community economic development organization that works in the core neighbourhoods of Saskatoon. As part of its affordable housing work, Quint has plans to work on energy efficiency upgrades. The goal is to improve the quality of homes, reduce energy bills, reduce the effects on the environment, and make the repayment of the retrofit work affordable from money saved on energy bills.

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ELIZABETH MAY ON GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: A WORKSHOP FOR ENVIRONMENTALISTS

Saskatoon: October 14, 2004

St. John's Anglican Cathedral, 813 Spadina Cres East
Time: 8:30am - coffee and muffins, workshop begins at 9:00am and ends at 4pm

Winnipeg: October 15, 2004

6th Floor, the Hammond Building, 63 Albert Street
8:30 AM - coffee and muffins, workshop begins at 9:00am and ends at 4pm

The morning will be spent as follows:

- 1) Why government matters – an overview of parliamentary democracy and what level of government does what in Canada.
- 2) Planning your campaign to reach government decision-makers (elements: petitions, letter writing campaigns, meeting the politician).
- 3) The meeting (getting it, preparing for it, delivering your message in person, follow-up).
- 4) A view from inside: Margret Asmuss (Saskatoon) and Dick Stephens (Winnipeg).
- 5) Build your bridges, don't burn them (words of advice for the long haul).

In the afternoon, participants will work in small groups and develop legal strategies for situations that routinely confront environmentalists. Participants will be provided with fact situations, and will be given time to collectively devise a strategy and course of action.

The workshop will conclude with Elizabeth May leading an analysis and summary discussion of the strategies that are developed.

To register for these day long sessions:

Saskatoon – October 14 - Email Dianne Manegre (sen@link.ca) to reserve a spot and mail a cheque for \$25 (made out to the Saskatchewan Eco-Network) to 203-115 2nd Ave. North, Saskatoon, SK, S7K 2B1.

Winnipeg – October 15 - Email Liz Dykman (mbeconet@mts.net) to reserve a spot and mail a cheque for \$25 (made out to the MEN) to 2nd Floor - 70 Albert Street Winnipeg, MB, R3B 1E7.

The workshop fee is \$25 (lunch included) and admittance is restricted to leaders of environmental nonprofits based in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Registration will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. Payment must be received in advance of the workshop.

Travel subsidies are available but must be arranged in advance with the workshop coordinator.

Please feel free to bring literature on your work as a display table will be provided.

WORKSHOP LEADERS

Elizabeth May has been the Executive Director of Sierra Club of Canada since 1993. She is a graduate of Dalhousie University School of Law and has been called to bar in Ontario and Nova Scotia. Elizabeth is a past member (and vice chair) National Round Table on Environment and Economy (1994-2001) and is a recipient of the United Nations Environment Programme, Global 500 Role of Honour for Environmental Achievement. She was the first Chairholder of the Elizabeth May Chair in Women's Health and Environment at Dalhousie and holds honorary doctorates from UNB and Mount St. Vincent. Her previous staff appointments include Cultural Survival Canada and the Royal Society of Canada. She was Senior Policy Advisor to the Honourable Tom McMillan, Federal Minister of the Environment from 1986-88.

Elizabeth is a founding member of Friends of the Earth, Canada and the Canadian Environmental Defence Fund. At one time or another Ms. May has been on the Boards of the Canadian Nature Federation, Ecology Action Centre, and the Canadian Environment Network. Currently, she is a member of Advisory Board to the Commissioner for Environment and Sustainable Development within the Auditor General's Office and Member of the Board of the International Institute for Sustainable Development.

Margret Asmuss is the Sustainability Coordinator with the University of Saskatchewan and former ministerial assistant to David Forbes (Saskatchewan's Environment Minister).

Dick Stephens, is a consultant and former Director of Legislation & Intergovernmental Affairs for MB Conservation.



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN WATER ISSUES?

In the fall, the Saskatchewan Environmental Society will be starting a water issues group. We already have a few members who are interested in working on some projects to promote water conservation and the protection of water resources. If you are interested, please contact the SES office via email at info@environmentalsociety.ca or by phone (306) 665-1915.

HELPING TRAVELLERS CHOOSE THEIR NEXT TOURISM EXPERIENCE

The depth, quality and business of nature tourism and ecotourism experiences available in Saskatchewan are equal only to the health of the environment and ecological sustainability of human actions. The province is not without its challenges in these areas but neither is it lacking in the success of private operators, non-profit organizations and governments at providing opportunities for travellers to enrich their nature and ecotourism explorations.

This field is the interest of the members of the Saskatchewan Nature and Ecotourism Association or S.N.E.A. (formerly the Ecotourism Society of Saskatchewan). Among its objectives the S.N.E.A pursues advocacy on issues and opportunities affecting ecotourism, nature tourism and sustainable tourism in protected areas and the ecosystem in general, in relation to tourism in the province. It also provides a forum for collaboration among members on best practices in a supportive and positive learning environment.

This network of professionals includes tour operators, developers, site operators, lodge owners, outfitters, conservationists, tourism and recreation planners, researchers, consultants, government and non-government organizations.

S.N.E.A assists the membership in marketing their products, including but not limited to promotion and packaging. Through the Horizons Ecotourism Certification Program (a national leader in certification of nature and ecotourism and recently addressed in Nature Canada magazine - June 2004) it develops options for sustainable tourism certification.

The association is proud to offer, through its more than 15 accredited members, memorable, ecologically responsible experiences of Saskatchewan's nature and ecology for travellers from Canada and around the world.

If you are interested in becoming a member or choosing your next nature or ecotourism experience in Saskatchewan see www.ecotourism.sk.ca or contact S.N.E.A president Bradley Muir at b.muir@sasktel.net or 306 982-2333.



Dr. David Suzuki

Biotechnology: The Ethical Dilemma

"Biotechnology, the application of molecular techniques to alter the genetic blueprint of life forms is a radical, revolutionary technology...As practiced today, biotechnology is only doomed to a preponderance of failures, it is destined to create unanticipated problems again and again..." (David Suzuki, letter to NFU members, July 16, 2004)

2:30 pm, Friday, November 19

Quality Inn Ballroom (Downtown Saskatoon)

Presented by the National Farmers Union

Tickets \$5.00 (Limited Seating)

*Proceeds to the NFU's ongoing campaign
to save family farms*

For tickets: Call 652-9465

Congratulations...

SEN's Environmental Achievement Awards

The Saskatchewan Eco-Network is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2003/04 Environmental Achievement Awards. This year, we recognize the joint achievements of four member groups, who worked together on the Stop GE Wheat Tour: the Council of Canadians (PA Chapter), the National Farmers Union, Oxfam (Prairies Region), and the Saskatchewan Organic Directorate OAPF Committee. SEN is also pleased to announce the individual recipient of this year's Environmental Achievement Award. Congratulations go out to Cathy Holtslander, for her extensive contributions to the environmental movement in Saskatchewan.

Please join with us to celebrate with this year's Environmental Achievement Award recipients. We will be gathering for lunch at noon on Tuesday, Oct 5, in Saskatoon, at the Senator Hotel's dining room. Please contact the SEN office before Monday, September 27, if you plan to attend.

SEN's Grassroots Activism Grants

SEN's Grassroots Activism grants provide funding up to \$1,000 for member groups interested in working together on specific activities. SEN is pleased to announce this year's recipients are the Farm Woodlot Association of Saskatchewan and Beyond Factory Farming.

For more information about SEN's Grassroots Activism Grant program, see our website at www.econet.sk.ca/pages/tools/grassroots.html. If your group is interested in applying next year, feel free to contact our office at (306) 652-1275 or by e-mail at sen@link.ca.

OAPF CLASS CERTIFICATION HEARING DELAYED

Monsanto and Bayer requested and were granted an adjournment of the Class Certification Hearing for the legal action Hoffman et al. v Monsanto and Bayer, which was to have been held on Sept 14 - 15, 2004.

The new hearing dates are now Nov 1- 2, 2004 if Bayer's lawyer is available, or Dec 9-10 otherwise. The purpose of the adjournment is to allow Monsanto and Bayer time to file additional material to respond to claims that they are legally responsible for volunteer GM canola and for dismantling the Identity Preservation Program ("IPP"). The IPP was implemented by Monsanto and Bayer to coincide with the commercialization of their GM canola lines. It was designed to prevent the contamination of grain destined for export markets. The IPP was dismantled in 1997 after Japan approved the importation of GM canola even though the European Union had not.

Counsel for the organic farmers opposed the adjournment. For details of the class action suit, please see www.saskorganic.com.



Help is needed!

Make your cheque or money order payable to SOD OAPF and send it to:

SOD OAPF, Box 130
Canwood, SK S0J 0K0

This case is not only for Saskatchewan organic farmers, but for the benefit of all farmers and consumers worldwide. Your contribution will make a difference. See www.saskorganic.com to make an on-line contribution.

CRAIK ECOVILLAGE INTRODUCTORY MEETING

1pm - 5pm, October 2, 2004
Craik Eco-Centre

The **Craik Sustainable Living Project** (www.craikecovillage.ca) is hosting a meeting for those interested in taking part in establishing the Craik Eco-village. The meeting will be held on Saturday, Oct 2, starting at 1pm at the Craik Eco-Centre (located outside the town of Craik, midway between Saskatoon and Regina, just off Highway 11. Look for the large sign on the east side of the highway, opposite the main entrance to the Town).

This meeting is an opportunity for everyone interested in the Ecovillage to meet each other, and meet members of the Craik community and the Eco Action Steering Committee for the Craik Sustainable Living Project. We will have some brief presentations at the beginning of the meeting, including a talk and slide show on recently visited ecovillages in Sweden and Denmark, followed by questions and group discussion.

After the meeting, there will be tours of the potential site of the Ecovillage, as well as the Eco-Centre and any other areas of interest in the Town or surrounding area.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you are interested in attending this meeting. I would ask that you send your response to both the email addresses below or you can reach Mary Beckie or Shirley Eade by telephone 306-734-2250, (e-mail mbeckie@sasktel.net or town.craik@sasktel.net).



Saskatoon Curbside Recycling

Saskatoon Curbside Recycling will be celebrating its first year of business in October! We have over 1100 customers who have helped keep more than 500,000 lbs of material from being sent to the landfill in just our first year of operation!

Through our service, we provide you with two sturdy and reusable plastic bags, two recycling bins, and an info package. We pick up your recyclable materials including ALL paper, glass, metal, and plastic every two weeks. Sorting and preparation of materials is minimal. We charge a monthly fee of \$10 per household plus GST with student and senior discounts.

To get started with our curbside recycling service, please call us at 651-2162 or email us at saskatooncurbsiderecycling@shaw.ca. Check out our website, which you'll find at www.curbsiderecycling.ca. You can look up collection schedules for your area, review sorting instructions, and find answers to frequently asked questions.

**Helping Keep
Saskatoon GREEN!**



Partners FOR the SK River Basin and Canadian Water Resources Assoc. Present:

Planning for Climate Variability: Floods, Drought, & Change October 6-8, 2004 Sheraton Cavalier, Saskatoon, SK

For more info, contact Partners at (306) 665 6887, or go to www.saskriverbasin.ca/conference



NEW OIL PATCH REPORT AVAILABLE

The Saskatchewan Environmental Society is pleased to announce the publication of a new report addressing concerns of people living in the oil patch.

“When the Oil Patch Comes to Your Saskatchewan Back Yard: A Citizen’s Guide to Protecting Your Rights”

...is an 85-page summary of issues confronting landowners and concerned citizens when petroleum development takes place in their neighbourhood. It explains how the regulatory system works, and gives advice about where to look for help. Commonly felt concerns include environmental and ecosystem damage, health issues, property damage, impacts on livestock, and trespassing. The report will help ranchers and farmers understand the potential problems they may encounter, and prepare for the task of asserting their rights when their land is about to be impacted by oil or gas development.

“When the Oil Patch Comes to Your Saskatchewan Backyard”, researched and written by Saskatoon lawyer, Stefania Fortugno, is modelled on a 2001 Alberta publication published by the Pembina Institute. The material has been updated, supplemented and made relevant to Saskatchewan. Funding for the Saskatchewan project was provided by the University of Saskatchewan’s Centre for Studies in Agriculture, Law and the Environment, Nexen Canada Ltd and the Saskatchewan Environmental Society.

The report can be downloaded free from the Saskatchewan Environmental Society website at www.environmentalsociety.ca.

Print copies are available for \$10 (plus postage and packaging \$2.50) from the SES office. To order, contact SES: e-mail, phone (306)665-1915, mail at Saskatchewan Environmental Society, P.O. Box 1372, Saskatoon SK S7K 3N9, or by visiting the office at 203-115 2nd Avenue North in Saskatoon.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 1-2: **Trade Agreements Workshop** (Democracy in Trade Now & SK-CCPA Office), Regina’s Quality Hotel, for more info call Loretta at-525-1666.

Oct 2 **Craik Eco-Village Introductory Meeting**, for details see Page 4.

Oct 5 **Environmental Achievement Awards Luncheon**, see Page 3.

Oct 6-8, **“Planning for Climate Variability: Floods, Drought, and Gradual Change”**, for details see Page 4.

Oct 13: Stats Canada Conference: **The Cost of Higher Education: A Balance Act**. Call (306) 780-5406 to register or toll-free 1-800-263-1136, or email yvonne.kiminski@statcan.ca

Oct 14 **Government Relations Workshop** with Elizabeth May, see Page 2 for more information.

Oct 14-16 **National Food Security Assembly** in Winnipeg. The Assembly promises to bring together a diverse range of participants to work collaboratively in following up on action plans developed by the Canadian government at the World Food summit in 1996. For more info, see www.foodsecurityassembly.ca.

Oct 18-24: **Waste Reduction Week**, for details see Page 1

Oct 21-23: **Canadian Environmental Network’s Annual General Assembly and Conference**. This year’s theme is Building the Eco-City: Today’s Cities for Tomorrow’s Generations. For more information, visit www.cen-rce.org/eng/projects/ace/index.html.

Oct 26: **Book Launch, “It’s the Crude, Dude: Was, Big Oil, and the Fight for the Planet”** (by Linda McQuaig) Saskatoon, McNally Robinson Booksellers. For more info call 306-955-3599.

Oct 28: 7:00pm **Roots, Wings, and Hooves** (SES and CPAWS), Mendel Art Gallery Auditorium, Saskatoon, featuring Joanne Marchand, Phil McLoughlan, Lynn Oliphant, and Joe Schmutz. For more info, call 665-1915 or 955-6197.

Nov 2-3: **“Building Capacity for Watershed Stewardship”** (CWRA) Regina’s West Harvest Inn See www.cwra.org for more info, and to register on-line.

Nov 14-16: **Organic Connections Conference**, see Pg 8 for more info.

November 18-20 **National Farmers Union Convention**, Seeds of Hope, Seeds of Division, including featured speaker David Suzuki presenting a lecture on **Biotechnology - the Ethical Dilemma**. For more info see Page 3 or visit www.nfu.ca/misc_files/national_convention.html.

New Environmental Radio Show

Tune in and listen to Pocket Mulch, Saskatoon’s newest environmental radio show on CFCR 90.5FM every Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:00. Crystal Clarke will be your host as she digs up issues, news, and events pertaining to environmental issues in and around Saskatoon. Local enviro issues will be focused on, but she will keep you up-to-date on big environmental goings-on in Canada and the world. If you have any ideas, feedback, or questions, e-mail her at pockmulch@hotmail.com. She is open to all aspects of environmentalism, from main-stream concerns to issues not usually brought to the surface. So turn it up and stay informed!

OPEN LETTER TO PREMIER CALVERT

August 7, 2004

Premier Lorne Calvert
Room 226, 2405 Legislative Drive,
Regina, SK S4S 0B3

Dear Premier Calvert:

This letter is in response to two recent government Press Releases: July 27, 2004 "Protecting Our Water" and July 30, 2004 "Second Report on Drinking Water Released".

We should be encouraged by the activity these press releases imply. However, according to the August 4, 2004 report on Sask Environment's website, there are 78 Precautionary Drinking Water Advisories and 21 Emergency Boil Water Orders currently in effect in Saskatchewan. We also note that, of these 21 Emergency Boil Water Orders, 15 were issued because testing of the wells indicated the presence of E.coli bacteria.

We, of course, lack the ways and means of tracing the sources of this contamination, but it does beg the question: how many of these 15 wells have been contaminated by E.coli bacteria originating at any of the mega hog operations across this province? And, even more worrisome, how many more wells will be contaminated and how many innocent people will become ill in the future as a result of the existence and proliferation of these projects?

The answer is: we don't know.

There are no independent Environmental Impact Assessments done before the hog operations are given an operating permit, so we have no way of knowing what the long term effects of this pollution will be on the environment and on our health. What we do know, however, is that hog manure is one of the most common potential carriers of, among many others, E.coli bacteria. We also know that every time an operating permit is issued to yet another pig factory, our drinking water and our health are being increasingly threatened. What is it going to take for this government to understand that these two entities cannot co-exist?

We continue to educate the public about the enormous environmental and health risks posed by industrial hog production across our beautiful province. Through our ongoing discussions with others, we encourage and support local family farmers who raise animals for food in sustainable, environmentally safe methods, and we encourage consumers to seek them out.

Society cannot continue to expect the natural systems to be able to cleanse our water from the enormous amount of manure produced by these confined animals. We continue to ask the Saskatchewan government: when is it going to use wisdom and precaution to protect our precious drinking water and our health by imposing a moratorium on the expansion of pig factories in Saskatchewan?

Respectfully yours,
Elaine Hughes, Stop the Hogs Coalition
Member, Beyond Factory Farming
Box 23, Archerwill, SK S0E 0B0
Cc: NDP Caucus, Sask Party Caucus



BECOME A "CITIZEN SCIENTIST"

PlantWatching is a fun activity for anyone who enjoys flowers and can't wait to get outdoors in the springtime! PlantWatch species for our province include a suite of common native plants as well as Dandelion and Common Purple Lilac, so anyone regardless of age, skill level or location can be a "citizen scientist". In addition, Saskatchewan PlantWatch observers can look forward to an opportunity to learn more about climate change, greenhouse gases and simple lifestyle changes that ultimately make a world of difference.

PlantWatch is a Canada-wide network of volunteers who record the blooming times for common plant species in their province. Information collected by PlantWatchers is a valuable tool used by the Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Network (EMAN) and the Canadian Nature Federation (CNF) to track how and at what rate climate change is taking place across the nation.

The **Saskatchewan PlantWatch** program has a new home with Nature Saskatchewan, a member-based organization of enthusiastic naturalists. To become a PlantWatch participant, or for more information about our program, **contact** Tara Sample, the SK PlantWatch Coordinator, at 780-9417 in Regina (Toll Free at 1-800-667-4668) at rpr@naturesask.com or visit www.plantwatch.ca for more information.



Elmer Laird: A Pioneer of Organic Agriculture on the Prairies

Elmer Laird celebrated his eightieth birthday on January 24, 2004. He remains an active presence in the organic agriculture community as the president of the Back to the Farm Research Foundation.

There is a quote attributed to Mahatma Gandhi in common circulation these days: "Become the change you want to see". Elmer continues to live his life in just this way. He would also add that it is important to seek out information, analyze it and then tell others what you think, even if they are not keen on hearing what you have to say. Rural communities, agriculture, food quality and human health have been his long-term interests.

Elmer has spent most of his life in Saskatchewan. He grew up as part of a family farming operation where the horsepower came from actual horses. As an eighteen year old, he operated a combine for the first time in the fall of 1942. A few months later he was formally enlisted in the air force, where he was trained as an airframe mechanic. Elmer had an interest in mechanical things but had had very little practical exposure, so it was a steep learning curve. He was stationed in many places in Canada, England and Germany. A noteworthy war moment was that he serviced the Spitfires that made the victory flight over Berlin on May 8, 1945. When the war ended, he returned home to the Swift Current area.

Elmer bought his first tractor, a 1946 Massey Harris, with his father shortly after the war ended. It is still in his possession, fully restored and repainted. John Laird's health caused him to cease farming shortly after his son's return. In 1947, Elmer used his VLA grant to purchase land in the Davidson area. In 1960, he purchased a section of land adjacent to the #11 highway.

Elmer Laird has been voicing concerns about the health effects of agricultural chemicals on ecosystems and humans since the early 1970's. It was economics, however, not health concerns that originally prompted him to reassess his farming techniques. In 1969, he found himself with a lot of grain in storage and little current income, so he decided to farm without all the purchased inputs. About the same time, he married Gladys McKay, a reference librarian and keen environmentalist. Together, they sought out information about the problems arising from agricultural chemicals and organic farming methods. Once started down this track, Elmer had no desire to return to conventional agriculture. Gladys remained an active partner until her death in 1999.

The Back to the Farm Research Foundation was formed in November of 1973 as a response to a presentation made by a member of the Club of Rome at a National Farmers' Union convention. Elmer was the founding president. Back to the Farm has been involved with many projects over the years. One that received national attention was a contest held in 1975 to design a grasshopper harvester. The group joined with other Saskatchewan groups to sponsor six alternate agriculture conferences held from 1976-1982. In 1983, The Back to the Farm Research Foundation helped form the Canadian Organic Producers Marketing Cooperative (often referred to as the Girvin Co-op), an initiative that was pivotal to the development of organic agriculture in Saskatchewan. Elmer decided to retire from active farming in 2001. His land is now leased to the Foundation for a ten-year period so that it can be operated as a research and demonstration farm. Elmer has a long-time interest in intercropping. In 2003, the farm featured 17 demonstration plots showing different intercropping possibilities.

Elmer says that being involved with the development of organic agriculture in Saskatchewan has been an exciting and largely positive experience. His advice to farmers considering a switch to organic techniques is to use other established farmers as the main source of information. He feels that the U of S needs to offer a specialized program in organic techniques—we are far behind Europe in this regard. Elmer sees women as the key to changing how agriculture is practised: it was true in his own family and he meets women all the time who are deeply concerned about food and health issues.

SEN Steering Committee 2004 / 2005

Alan Appleby - Chair
CPAWS-Sask.
3079 Athol Street
Regina, SK S4S 1Y6
Phone: (306) 586-3863
Fax: (306) 586-3863
Email: aappleby@accesscomm.ca

Mary Beckie
Craik Sustainable Living Project
14 Mitchell Crescent
Saskatoon, SK S7H 3G1
Phone: (306) 665-8103
Email: mbeckie@sasktel.net

Sharon Cameron
SFL Environment Committee
Box 2174
Humboldt, SK S0K 2A0
Phone: (306) 682-5157
Fax: (306) 682-4046
Email: sharon.cameron@sasktel.net

Mike Finley
Nature Saskatchewan
410 26th St. W.
Saskatoon, SK S7L 0H9
Phone: (306) 665-6428
Email: mjfinley@shaw.ca

Larry Hawrysh
Redberry Biosphere Reserve
Box 28
Hafford, SK S0J 1A0
Phone: (306) 549-4627
Email: dhawrysh@sk.sympatico.ca

Isabel Muzichuk
Concerned Citizens for a
Safe and Healthy Environment
Box 102
Buchanan, SK S0A 0J0
Phone: (306) 592-2122

Olivia Schliep
Saskatchewan Environmental Society
1906 St. Charles Avenue
Saskatoon, SK S7M 0N8
Phone: (306) 652-1654
Email: oschliep@sasktel.net

Jim Elliott (CEN Council Rep.)
The Gaia Group
2108 Reynolds Street
Regina, SK S4N 3N1
Phone: (306) 352-4804
Email: caar@accesscomm.ca



ORGANIC CONFERENCE IN SASKATOON

The first Prairie-wide Organic Connections Conference and Trade Show will be held at the Centennial Auditorium in Saskatoon from Nov. 14-16. Sponsored by Organic Connections, the event is designed to connect the entire organic community, from the producer to the consumer, says Debbie Miller, President, Organic Connections.

The conference program, to be held Nov. 15 and 16, will combine sessions and workshops with opportunities for networking at the tradeshow, Miller said. Three programs will be offered: Marketing, Production, and Healthy Alternatives. Along with the conference, activities have been organized for Sunday, Nov 14, including a consumer program, a 3-hour session on biodynamic agriculture, and a special organic food "fiesta" Sunday

evening, featuring keynote speaker Dr. Redimio Pedraza Olivera, Dean of Agriculture at the University of Camagüey, Cuba, speaking on "Cuba's Organic Challenge". His presentation will include a photo tour of current Cuban agriculture. The evening event will be held as a fundraiser with the Child Hunger & Education Program.

The tradeshow attached to the conference will create opportunities for organizations to increase their profile, to establish and strengthen business relationships, and to showcase new products or services, Miller said. She expects that industry associations, producers, certifiers, processors, and buyers, and businesses that supply the organic industry, along with a wide variety of non-profit organizations, will participate in the tradeshow. "As well, international buyers have been invited to attend to help producers make connections in a global marketplace," said Miller. Persons interested in participating in the trade show are asked to call Byron Hamm at (306) 382-1299. Non-profit rates are available.

For more about the Organic Connections Conference, contact Debbie Miller at (306) 476-2739 or see the web site at www.organicconnections.ca.

Join the Network!

New members are welcome. Membership is open to non-governmental, not-for-profit organizations involved in environmental protection activities. Individuals who support the Network's objectives may also join as subscribers but may not vote or hold office.

Name/Contact Person

Organization

Title

Address

Postal Code

Phone Fax

Email

Membership fees:

Annual budget of less than \$5,000	\$30.00
Annual budget from \$5,000 to \$29,999	\$35.00
Annual budget from \$30,000 to \$99,999	\$45.00
Annual budget of \$100,000 or more	\$50.00
Organization fees include \$10.00 membership in the CEN	
Individual subscriber	\$10.00

Please send your cheque to Saskatchewan Eco-Network, #203-115 2nd Ave. N, Saskatoon, SK. S7K 2B1.

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