

February 2009

Hello! My name is Emily Menzies – your Climate Action Facilitator for the Capital Regional District (CRD) with the BC Ministry of Environment’s new Youth Climate Leadership Alliance (YCLA).

To better support youth climate action, I am doing a survey of school-based climate education and action initiatives in the region.

Teachers, administrators, students, parents, staff—please take a few minutes to complete the survey at:

www.sureforms.net/emilymenzies.form

Respondents will be nominated for the CRD Eco-Star Awards and will be entered in to a weekly draw for awesome climate friendly **PRIZES**, like green products from local businesses, classroom programming and resources, free solar panel rentals for club events and customized support for administrators and parent advisories!

Opportunities

Idle Free Schools: Want to help parents, students and staff reduce air pollution, cut climate change, save money, improve safety, reduce traffic congestion and open the gateway to more active transportation? **Order Idle Free Zone signs** for your school today! Each school is eligible for up to 4 free signs at www.hastebc.org. For anti-idling give-aways or help designing an effective campaign or event, contact Emily.Menzies@gov.bc.ca

FUN Leaders: A specialized 5-day spring break leadership program for gr.10-12 students that combines your love of the outdoors with your passion for making the world a better place. This life-changing experience counts for CAPP hours, is an asset on your resume and reference letters will be available. Location: UBC Grad Student Centre, 10am-4pm, **March 16th - 20th**. Free accommodation is available. Info: www.funssociety.ca/PDF.html

BC Green Games: Students **K-12:** Submit a creative presentation about your eco-project such as video, photo-essay, or pod cast by **Feb 27** at www.bcreengames.ca 24 winning teams will each **receive \$2,000** and a chance to win a solar panel kit!

Queen Alexandra Youth Advisory Grants: Up to \$2,000 each for youth-driven projects associated with a registered charity. Applications due **Feb. 28:** www.queenalexandra.org

Regional Waste Diversion: School districts in the CRD are interested in developing a regional approach to waste management and your input is needed! Please submit questions, concerns, suggestions and examples of recycling, composting and waste reduction initiatives to emenzies@crd.bc.ca, for **Feb. 12**

Glenlyon Norfolk School Change Conference: Feb. 20-21: Students register ASAP at www.changeconference.ca

Greater Victoria Compost Education Centre: CRD-sponsored, interactive programs for preschool to gr. 12. Register at www.compost.bc.ca/learn/kidsandschools.htm

Youth Green Drinks: Youth ages 12-30 and youth workers, come share ideas and opportunities for green projects and opportunities throughout the region. Meet new friends, enjoy great music and eat local, organic, fair trade treats! **Wed, Feb. 25th 4-6pm, Solstice Café:** 529 Pandora Ave, Victoria. For more info, contact Alison@sierraclub.bc.ca or 250-386-5255 ext 225

CRD 2009 EcoStar Awards: Submit nominations for individuals, groups or organizations to recognize those who are working to improve the quality of life in the Capital Region. **Nominations due Feb. 27** at: www.crd.bc.ca/ecostar

Do you have a resource or opportunity to share? Do you need help?
Contact me with requests and solutions at Emily.Menzies@gov.bc.ca or 250-361-8437