

June 2009

Opportunities

Sustainability Education Solutions: Program providers, teachers and students are invited to share ideas to make it easier to bring environmental education into the classroom and get students outside for hands-on learning! How about a field trip fair or a website of available programs for teachers? **Thurs. June 18, 4-6pm**, Victoria Foundation: #109-645 Fort St. RSVP: Laurie@hat.bc.ca.

Go Beyond Youth Action Gathering: come join 50 BC high school and post-secondary **students ages 14-30** at this 5th annual week long **youth camp Aug 28-Sept. 3**, Deas Island Park, Richmond BC. Develop your leadership skills, meet like-minded youth, have fun outside, enjoy great food and learn how to run the Sustainable High Schools Project or goBeyond program at your school. **Register today!** http://campusclimatenetwork.org/wiki/2009_goBeyond_Youth_Action_Gathering \$250; bursaries available

Bike to Cap Aids: a 25km student-run bike ride along the Lochside trail to raise funds to purchase bicycles for care workers in sub-saharan Africa. On **Sat, June 13, 9:30 am - 12:00 pm**, enjoy a fun-filled, family-friendly day with workshops, entertainment, raffles and a complimentary BBQ. **Register Online** at www.capaid.org or contact Ellen: 893-2958 or capaids.victoria@gmail.com

Green Job Fairs: register for this event at UBC in Vancouver July 23rd to 27th <http://www.worldchangingcareers.com> and/ or help City of Victoria Youth Council organize a rockin summer event here to help YOUth find jobs that save the world! www.cvyec.net

Saanich Urban Forest Strategy: Parks and Recreation will be hosting a Public Open House to provide info and receive feedback from community members on an integrated and sustainable approach to preserving trees and enhancing Saanich's Urban Forest. Drop in **Thurs, June 11** at the Pacific Forestry Centre, 506 West Burnside Road for presentations at 6:00, 7:00 & 8:00 pm or fill out the online survey [here](http://www.gov.saanich.bc.ca/resident/parks/UrbanForestStrategy.html). **Info:** www.gov.saanich.bc.ca/resident/parks/UrbanForestStrategy.html

Youth Strides Camp: immigrant & refugee youth ages 13-19 are invited to apply by **June 11** for a fun, safe and inspiring leadership camp July 18-25 at Camp Barnard in Sooke. Curious? Contact Negin at: enable@vircs.bc.ca.

Kyoto Plus: Want to see strong federal action on climate change? Starting on July 3, 2009, Canadians of all ages will join rides and walks leaving from both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts to support the new climate treaty to be negotiated in Denmark in December. **Info:** www.kyotoplus.ca/pedal or contact Sean Magee, sean.s.magee@gmail.com to find out how you can participate in BC.

Green Street Grants: public schools can apply for \$250.00 each for environmental projects initiated and carried out by teachers and students. Check out: www.marueverte.ca/en/applicationform.html

Vancouver Foundation Grants: Letters of intent are **due June 18th** for projects ranging from arts, culture, education, environment, children, youth and families in **BC communities**. **Info:** www.vancouverfoundation.ca/grants/index.htm

Organic Gardening & Lawncare: FREE workshops hosted by the CRD and partners throughout the spring. Reduce and adapt to climate change by learning to create healthy outdoor spaces and foster local food security. For info: www.crd.bc.ca/workshops

Climate Change and Coastal Communities: Red Cross Educational Series to raise awareness about the impact of climate change and develop resources to build community capacity. **June 16 with Peggy Mahoney:** what's happening locally; mobilizing capacity and sharing resources. 5:30-9p.m. 2994 Douglas St. Free pizza, childcare, travel. RSVP: victoriaevent@redcross.ca

Want to sign up for this E-newsletter? Do you have a resource or opportunity to share? Do you need help?
Take the CRD Youth Climate Leadership Alliance **SURVEY:** www.sureforms.net/emilymenzies.form
Contact me with requests and solutions at Emily.Menzies@gov.bc.ca or 250-361-8437

Climate Education and Action in the CRD: Highlights of 2008-2009 School Year

School District Successes: (Great news! Waste contract now includes recycling & composting!)

SD61's Sustainability and Climate Change Committee hosted a district wide forum bringing together 140 diverse school community members to share knowledge, hope and plans to green every school. The presentation made by students was so successful they added student positions to their committee of teacher, administration, trustee custodial, educational assistant and parent reps!

SD62's 16 schools participating in the [Destination Conservation](#) program saved over 100,000 kilowatt hours of electricity in the first 5 months of the program – enough energy to power 20 homes in the same period! These student led teams won SD62 DC's Best School District in the province, simply by turning off unused lights, turning off computers at the end of the day, turning the heat down and unplugging unnecessary electronics. Top campaigns: "Freezing Fridays," "Dine in the Dark" and "Be Bright, Turn off the Light!"

SD63's Creatures of Habitat celebrated Earth Day with over 700 Grade Six students, 60 gr. 11 and 12 student volunteers visiting Saanich Peninsula green spaces and rotating through stations run by community groups. SD63's District Green Team led with a website, district sustainability policy, class presentations, green superhero design contest, and took the CRD Earth Month Challenge.

SD64 continues to integrate environmental education and action throughout every class and school in the District: every day is earth day! They also forward the CRD E-news to every single teacher! Check out the Saturna Ecological Education Centre: www.seec64.ca

Congrats to the following successful Trees for Tomorrow grantees in the Capital Region!

- Capital Regional District: Reforestation of Hartland Landfill Site
- City of Colwood: Colwood Creek Park Tree Planting
- City of Victoria: Fernwood Neighborhood/Stadacona Park Re-tree
- Corporation of the District of Saanich: Baxter Park/Trees for Tomorrow
- Greater Victoria School District - Reynolds Secondary: Green Spaces Components Projects
- The District of Central Saanich: East Saanich Road Greenway
- University of Victoria: Housepost Restoration Project
- City Of Langford: Trees for Tomorrow Project

CRD Ecostar Awards:

Youth Achievement (Individual): Maia Carolsfeld – Check her [video](#) & school site <http://bssgreenmachine.weebly.com>
Maia attends Belmont Secondary School and began her school's environmental club single handedly, creating a website and advocating for increased recycling, bike racks for school buses and native plant restoration of areas.

Youth Achievement (Group): Power to Be Adventure Society - Learn about the [program](#).

Power to Be has helped more than 3000 participants learn and grow in nature through a wilderness school, an adaptive recreation program, and oncology expedition with the BC Children's Hospital.

Climate Action & Energy Conservation: T'Sou-ke Nation – biggest solar [energy](#) project in BC!

The T'Sou-ke First Nation had a desire to reduce their greenhouse gases and free themselves from reliance on fossil fuels. Their sun-SHA-That (sunshine) project harnesses the power of the sun to reduce climate change. **Check it out at their Solar Festival July 17!**

Environmental Education: Glenlyon Norfolk School - Glenlyon Norfolk School [educated](#) the world!

GNS hosted an international forum on sustainability for 300 youth and educators from over 15 countries. To model sustainability for their guests, the school community met, set and achieved their goals to green the school.

Environmental Innovation: University of Victoria SPOKES Program – [transportation](#) initiative.

SPOKES refurbishes about 40 bicycles per month otherwise destined for the Hartland Landfill and provides those in need of green transportation with a viable option including subsidized safety gear.

Waste Reduction: Royal Oak Middle School - Find out how Royal Oak [reduced their waste](#).

With help from Royal Roads BSc students, Pacific Mobile Depot and reFUSE, Royal Oak has reduced their waste through intensive recycling and composting programs, limiting their garbage pickup to one collection every three weeks.

BC Green Games Video Award Winners:

- [Kelset Elementary](#)
- [Royal Oak Middle School](#)
- [Reynolds Secondary: Zero Waste](#) and [Courtyard](#)
Projects: won the people's choice Solar BC Prize!

United Way of Greater Victoria

Youth Now Award Recipients:

Green Award: Emily Morin Age 17, Reynolds Secondary

Volunteer Group: Reynolds Secondary School Green Group