

MOST EXCELLENT NEWS FOR COEO & FOR OUTDOOR EDUCATION

O.K., here's the great good news I was only able to hint at in our last newsletter. On a first-time application, COEO is the recipient of a \$61,000 one-year grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation! For an organization with an operating budget that is approximately half this amount, this is a HUGE deal and the first time we have ever received such sizeable funding. Barrie Martin deserves an infinite COEO hug for all of his work as lead author in our grant application. And, congratulations to our 2004-05 Board of Directors for deciding to "go for it."

A large portion of these funds will go to the hiring of a full time Project Coordinator to oversee the initiatives outlined in the job posting below. This represents a wonderful opportunity to further promote and develop outdoor education in this province.

**JOB POSTING: PROJECT COORDINATOR
 THE COUNCIL OF OUTDOOR EDUCATORS OF
 ONTARIO**

**Salary Range: \$32,000 to \$42,000, depending on experience
 This is a one-year full time position, funded through
 THE ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION.**

COEO is looking for a committed and dynamic individual who will undertake and coordinate province-wide initiatives that will:

- Determine how best to bring outdoor education to an increased number and diversity of interested organizations and educators through communication, collaboration, and other support
- Increase the number of educators engaged and competent in outdoor education through presentations, briefs, web site development, and increased opportunities for professional development
- Increase COEO's organizational effectiveness and sustainability through the development of a feasible long term strategic plan
- Develop and promote a better understanding of the values, principles and practices of outdoor education through compiling, interpreting and disseminating the best current research in the field

Qualifications

- Excellent planning, organizational and interpersonal skills.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Knowledge of and experience in resource development, e.g., volunteer recruitment and management.
- Knowledge and understanding of theory and practice associated with educating youth and adults in the outdoors.
- Ability to work out of home office and travel as required.
- Knowledge of and skills in a variety of computer applications.

Resume and covering letter must be received by 5 p.m., January 16, 2006.

Send to:

**The Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario,
c/o 508-220 Holland St. W., Bradford, ON L3Z 2Y1**

Fax: 905-775-1723

E-mail: info@coeo.org

For more information, go to COEO web site: www.coeo.org

JOB POSTINGS: PINE RIVER INSTITUTE

The Toronto Adolescent Recovery Centre is developing an innovative, highly structured co-ed residential school for 35 troubled teens struggling with issues of substance abuse. Opening Spring 2006 at a residential site near Toronto, this family-centred program will engage youth in a focussed transformation process through a fusion of education, therapy, recreation, and life skills. The program will begin with an intensive wilderness experience.

The Institute is accepting applications for the following positions:

- Director of School
- Clinical Director
- Therapists
- Teachers
- Residential Staff

Qualifications for the first two positions include a graduate degree in the relevant therapeutic or educational field as well as related experience.

An advertisement will be placed in the Globe and Mail this Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Full details will soon be posted on the following web site:

www.pineriverinstitute.com

THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND THE EBR: UPDATE

Thanks to all of you who have taken the time to write the government by the December 14th deadline to tell them that their greatly watered down version of having our Ministry of Education prescribed under the Environmental Bill of Rights is not good enough.

As President of COEO, Shane Kramer also wrote a letter of concern. This will be posted on the COEO web site under the News tab within the next day or so. We'll let you know what transpires.

ADVENTUREWORKS! WINTER COURSES

- 1) **Facilitating Adventure-Based Learning in Youth & School Groups**
For new and experienced educators, program directors & youth workers
A workshop full of hands-on ideas re how to facilitate adventure-based learning
January 31 to February 1, 2006

- 2) **Ropes Course & Climbing Wall Manager Training**
Ideal for program directors and senior ropes course instructors
Effective management systems (including safety); current standards & practices; current research and testing; program assessment & evaluation
February 21-23, 2006

For more information on both of these courses, go to www.adventureworks.org

PEER MENTORSHIP IN OUTDOOR AND EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION

COEO member Jonathan Nyquist is forming a peer mentorship group for young entrepreneurs (under 40 years of age) who have started or will be starting projects/businesses in OEE. The purpose is to network and to help one another in these ventures, including the following:

- Help solve challenging issues
- Find ways to become profitable
- Help professionalize the outdoor education industry

This group will meet approximately once a month. Meetings will be at the Ontario Camping Association Office in Toronto and will run from 4:15 to 6:15 p.m. For more information contact Jonathan: janyquist@gmail.com

EECOM 2006 CONFERENCE: CALL FOR PAPERS

This national conference will be jointly sponsored by the Nova Scotia Environmental Network, Interpretation Canada, and the Canadian Network for Environment Education and Communication [EECOM].

A call for papers for the **2006 EECOM/IC/NSEN Conference 'Salt of the Earth – Creating a Culture of Environmental Respect and Sustainability'** which is being held October 19-22, 2006 in Nova Scotia is being accepted until February 15, 2006. For more info, visit <http://www.earthed.ns.ca/saltoftheearth/>

KATIMAVIK

Want to introduce your students to the experience of a lifetime?

Katimavik is a nine-month volunteer service program for 17-21 year-olds, during which participants live in three different communities across Canada.

Travelling in teams of 11 from all across the country, participants experience the realities of group life, work with various non-profit organizations, improve their leadership skills, and see a slice of Canada's great diversity.

Although the experience is available to any Canadian in this age group, it will be of particular interest to outdoor education enthusiasts. Katimavik offers free presentations across Ontario to interested schools and community groups. For more information, call Erica in Toronto (416-567-4909) or Nick in Ottawa (613-722-8091 Ext. 110), or go to: www.katimavik.org