

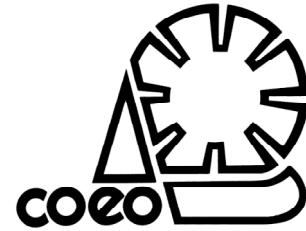
# **COEO NEWSLETTER**

The Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario

[www.coeo.org](http://www.coeo.org)

Editor: Grant Linney

August 10, 2006



## **COEO ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2006 Friday September 29 to Sunday October 1 Claireville Conservation Area, northwest Toronto**

### **Outdoor Education With the Community, In the Community, For the Community**

*... integrating outdoor, experiential and environmental education in urban communities to promote a sustainable future.*

#### **Please plan to attend:**

- Watch for full conference details to be posted on our web site shortly.
- Keep current, renew outdoor education philosophies & friendships, support COEO
- For the first time in COEO's history, you will be able to register and make credit card payment on line.

#### **Please help out:**

- We are still looking for a Conference Registrar and a Conference Treasurer
- There's lots of smaller tasks you can also help out with
- To volunteer, or for further inquiries, please contact Mark Whitcombe by phone (519-939-0020) or e-mail ([mwhitcombe@sympatico.ca](mailto:mwhitcombe@sympatico.ca))
- For general inquiries, contact [conference@coeo.org](mailto:conference@coeo.org)

#### **NEWS FROM OUR PRESIDENT** Shane Kramer [shanerkra@yahoo.ca](mailto:shanerkra@yahoo.ca)

##### **1) Call for new Board Members, 2006-07**

COEO is a volunteer-based organization. It depends on the multiple expertise, perspectives and commitment of its membership in order to carry out its mandate. One of the ways you can give back to this marvellous profession is to serve on the COEO Board of Directors. We meet in person 5 times a year and convene phone conferences on 1-2 other occasions.

Please contact me if you are interested in this important & rewarding work.

2) **COEO Conference 2007**

The dates are already set: Friday September 28th to Sunday September 30th  
Would you like to be part of a committee that plans Conference 2007 from the bottom up? (e.g., theme, location, sessions). Please get in touch if you are interested!

**CALL FOR COEO ANNUAL AWARD NOMINATIONS**

Our annual conference is the time for us to recognize and celebrate the efforts and achievements of COEO members and other outdoor educators throughout the province.

Please go to [www.coeo.org/membership](http://www.coeo.org/membership) and read about our three major awards. Consider nominating a deserving colleague. A nomination form will be included in the membership renewal mailing; it can also be downloaded from our web site.

Please note also that, as of this year, COEO has created a new award specifically designed for new members of our profession. The recipient will be chosen in early September, as it includes a one-year membership in COEO as well as free attendance at our annual conference. Note the description for this award that follows.

**The COEO Amethyst Award**  
***In memory of Brent Dysart***

This newest award given annually by COEO encourages the development of promising newcomers to our profession. The recipient is in the early stages of her/his career as an outdoor educator but brings energy and enthusiasm, insight and vision for our future.

The amethyst has been chosen for the naming of the award because of its qualities. This mineral is reflective in nature just as the candidate is reflective to the changing needs of our field and his/her role in it. The amethyst crystal continues to grow over time and is strong and durable, as we hope the career of the recipient will be. No two crystals are alike; each contains its own uniqueness. It is believed to promote positive benefits for the body, soul and mind. Amethyst can be found throughout Ontario and it has been the provincial mineral since 1975.

This award is given in memory of Brent Dysart. Brent was a longtime and committed outdoor educator and member of COEO. He was an enthusiastic mentor to younger outdoor educators, encouraging them to never stop learning and to develop themselves personally and for the benefit of our profession. This award is presented in his name and is sponsored by the Dysart family. The recipient will receive complementary attendance to COEO's annual conference and one year's membership in our organization. The COEO Board of Directors thanks Brent's wife Carolyn for her initiative and commitment in the creation of this award.

Neither the nominee nor nominator need to be current members of COEO. Two nominators who see a candidate from different perspectives are preferred. Please help us to recognize and support promising newcomers to our profession.

## **GENERATING A LONG TERM COMMITMENT TO ENERGY CONSERVATION**

*As part of its ongoing commitment to collaboration with other outdoor and environmental education organizations in Ontario, COEO is passing on this message from the Conservation Council of Ontario.*

On August 1st, Ontario set a new record for power consumption. The new level of 27,005 megawatts smashed last year's record by almost 1,000 megawatts, even with the calls for emergency conservation measures.

We can't all perform conservation miracles overnight, or only when the thermometer soars. Conservation needs to be an ongoing commitment.

On behalf of the Conservation Council of Ontario (a 55 year-old provincial association of conservation groups and a registered charity), I'm asking for your help. Please show your support for conservation as a top priority for meeting Ontario's electricity demand by making a personal pledge to use less electricity in your home.

Visit [www.lightenupontario.ca](http://www.lightenupontario.ca) to make your pledge. You can also pick up a pledge booklet at your local Beer Store, or from other participating local retailers and community groups. Look for the distinctive posters featuring that Canadian icon of improv comedy, Colin Mochrie.

This is not a quick-click campaign, but rather the first step in a multi-year commitment to improve your habits and to make appropriate investments in conservation products. In return, our commitment to you is to help you along the way with advice, with links to our local partners and with information about products, services and incentives that will make it easier for you to improve. Our goal is to help make conservation easier.

Individually, we can shave a few dollars of our monthly electricity bills. Together, we can reduce the need for fossil or nuclear power, to spend over \$40 billion on new plants and transmission lines, or to import expensive power from smoggy U.S. coal-fired plants. We might even turn down the global thermostat a notch.

Please help us make Ontario a conserver society. If you give us your commitment to conserve, we will be able to back you up with a stronger conservation movement.

Chris Winter  
Executive Director  
The Conservation Council of Ontario  
[www.weconserve.ca](http://www.weconserve.ca)

## **MONO CLIFFS OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Save this date on your calendar: **Saturday, October 28, 2006**

It's the Mono Cliffs 20th year anniversary celebration!

Open house from 11am to 3pm

Including wagon rides, site tours, crafts and visiting with old friends

Stay tuned for more details... see our website at <http://toes.tdsb.on.ca>

### **FROST CENTRE UPDATE:      Can you help to revive an Ontario icon?**

Go to <http://www.coeo.org/news.htm> and look for the "Frost Centre Update" heading. Click on COEO member Barrie Martin's encouraging update and call for widespread help to make the Friends of the Frost Centre's second and final submission to the government an offer they won't be able to refuse. See also [www.friendsofthefrostcentre.ca](http://www.friendsofthefrostcentre.ca)