

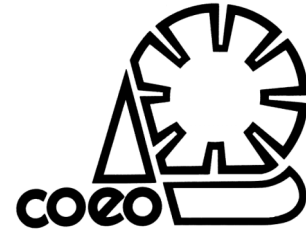
FRIENDS of COEO NEWSLETTER

The Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario

www.coeo.org

Editor: Grant Linney

January 1st, 2010



Please consider the environment before printing this newsletter.

COEO NEWS

CONFERENCE 2010

WHEN: September 24-26, 2010

WHERE: Kinark Outdoor Centre, Haliburton, Ontario

COEO Board member Scott McCormack is looking to convene a conference planning committee early in 2010. He and COEO member Emily Root are seriously considering a First Nations theme as is evident in the following statement from Scott.

As outdoor and environmental educators in Ontario we are all educating on someone's traditional territory. We need to acknowledge that if indigenous voices are omitted in the education process then we are, even if unintentionally, teaching from a colonial paradigm. If we wish to begin to de-colonize outdoor and environmental education, there must be space for indigenous voices to be heard, and opportunity for FN teachings to be respectfully included, in mind, body and spirit, in outdoor and environmental education. The same could be said for place-based education that is culturally appropriate by including Indigenous voices and/or teachings.

Emily and I have been talking about ideas for creating opportunity/space for FN teachings, by First Nations people in the conference by having guest speakers or keynote speaker (s) or even having the conference hosted, or co-hosted by people from the FN community. Seeing that COEO is a meeting place for outdoor and environmental educators much like Indigenous Education programs at post secondary institutions such as Sir Sandford Fleming College and Trent University are a meeting place for various FN people, scholars and students alike, we think that as a starting point it would be most appropriate to seek a partnership or collaboration with such institutions/programs.

If you wish to be a part of this planning process, please contact Scott:

ws_mccormack@yahoo.com

UPCOMING P.D. OPPORTUNITIES

ADVENTUREWORKS!

www.adventureworks.ca

Facilitating Adventure-Based Learning February 11-12, 2010. Ancaster

This program enhances your ability to design and deliver effective adventure-based learning experiences that achieve your program's desired goals. Participants will learn new strategies for designing programs, leading activities, and facilitating reflection and debriefs. The workshop blends an experiential learning approach with presentations on current theory and research related to program effectiveness. Visit the website for registration and more details.

Building Community through Adventure with Low Prop Activities

February 19, 2010. Ancaster

This one-day workshop will help you learn active approaches for developing community and accelerating team development in the classroom, youth centre and camp. Visit the website for registration and more details.

New Portable Adventure Kits (PAK's) for Facilitators

Our PAK's are a great resource for the facilitator who is often on the move and would like their resources to be as versatile and portable as they are. The sleek and practical bag that each Kit comes in makes it easy to grab your PAK and Go. Our PAK series consists of 7 different kits, each with its own intended focus. Every PAK includes a collection of processing tools, activity equipment, props, and activity descriptions and comes in a convenient portable storage bag. Visit the website to order & for more details.

- Classroom Community PAK
- Corporate Training PAK
- Personal PAK
- Processing PAK I & II
- Puzzle PAK
- Deluxe Facilitator PAK.

Please contact **Adventureworks** at 905-304-5683, toll-free at 877-311-5683, or by e-mail: info@adventureworks.org for more information.

HIDDEN BAY WINTER OLYMPIC VILLAGE

<http://www.hiddenbayoec.com/>

Family Day meets the Olympics! Families are invited to come on out to Hidden Bay Leadership Camp to take part in a full day of our version of Olympic events, including the torch relay, luge, skating, snow sculptures, and decathlon (cross country skiing and archery put together!)

Opening Ceremonies: 9:30 am

Closing Ceremonies 3:30 pm

Cost: \$5/person or \$15/family.

Lunch is available.

This event is part of Parry Sound Snowfest, Feb 12-15th, 2010.

All proceeds go towards Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Parry Sound.

Contact director@hiddenbay.ca for more info and to register.

UPCOMING P.D. OPPORTUNITIES

(Continued)

LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY TEACHER AQ COURSES

<http://education.lakeheadu.ca/lifelonglearning>

Lakehead University's Faculty of Education offers over 40 online, blended delivery, and independent study courses designed to help teachers with their professional development.

Late registration is still available until January 8 for Winter 2010 courses starting on January 4.

- Special Education, Part 1 & Part 2 (Online)
- Reading, Part 1 (Online)
- French As A Second Language, Part 1 (Online)
- English As A Second Language, Part 1 (Independent Study)
- Integration of Information & Computer Technology in Instruction, Part 2 (Ind. Study)
- Guidance & Career Education, Part 1 & Part 2 (Independent Study)
- Co-operative Education, Part 2 (Independent Study)

****New courses** coming soon include:

Religious Education, Part 1

Environmental Science, Part 1

Outdoor Experiential Education

****** Because of the ***outdoor*** and ***experiential*** nature of the last course listed, Lakehead is currently committed to offering at least its opening and closing portions as face-to-face components, likely at their Orillia Faculty of Education campus or in southern Ontario. We intend to model what we teach. The class will engage first hand in the experiential learning process. It will likely take place either next summer or during the fall. ***Stay tuned to this newsletter for further details as they are finalized.***

This course is being developed for Lakehead by COEO's own Grant Linney, career outdoor educator and part of the writing team that produced the Ontario College of Teachers guidelines for this new AQ course.

RBG Symposium on Sustainable Horticulture

"Living Plants, Livable Communities:

Exploring Sustainable Horticulture for the 21st Century"

February 16 – 20, 2010 Hamilton, ON

<http://rbg.ca/cisb/2010symp/>

The Royal Botanical Gardens are hosting a day of hands-on workshops (Tuesday, Feb. 16) followed by three days of plenary and breakout presentations and discussions on sustainability and horticulture (Wed. to Fri.) at RBG Centre, 680 Plains Road West, Burlington, ON L7T 4H4.

Sessions include the Sustainable Sites Initiative, water features, climate change, urban agriculture, native plants, green roof technologies and more. The program includes keynote presentations by Dr. Jennifer Sumner, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, Dr. David Galbraith, Royal Botanical Gardens, and Dr. Steve Windhager, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, Austin, Texas and Melanie Sifton, Humber Arboretum. A special public lecture featuring Dr. Thomas Homer-Dixon, Balsillie School of International Affairs, Waterloo, Ontario, will take place on Wednesday evening, entitled "Gardening for Resilience: Climate Change and Horticulture through Mid-Century."

Early bird discounts available until January 25.

UPCOMING P.D. OPPORTUNITIES

(Continued)

JANUARY @ THE WYE MARSH

<http://www.wyemarsh.com/>

FULL DAY SATURDAY FALCONRY WORKSHOP

Nowhere else are you expertly brought face-to-face with the grace, majesty, power and intelligence of birds of prey then during the one day courses available at Wye Marsh. The cornerstone of these workshops is to generate an interest in and instill an understanding of the importance for maintaining natural habitats for birds of prey. This is achieved by allowing participants to personally meet and handle these wonderful animals. Working with birds of prey during hands on training, encourages a sense of appreciation for the rarity of interacting with owls, hawks and falcons, either in a controlled environment or sightings in nature.

Date: Saturday, January 9, 2010 **Time:** 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Cost: \$175.00 per person. Pre-registration required

Contact: Reservations 705.526.7809 ext. 207 or email reservations@wyemarsh.com

WYE MARSH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, January 27, 2010 starting at 12:00 p.m.

Open to the General Public

WYE MARSH TRACK-SET CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRAILS are also good to go!

Yours Outdoors & Winter Programs in Haliburton

<http://www.yoursoutdoors.ca/index.htm>

COEO's own Barrie Martin presents a great variety of winter offerings.

Make Peace with Winter

Try a little winter. Embrace the winter wonders of the Haliburton Highlands with a sampler of unique, fun, and active experiences including your choice of dogsledding, ice climbing, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, skijoring, skating, tobogganing, and a sleigh ride. [More...](#)

Walk into Winter

Take a walk on the wild side with a biologist who will help you discover the animals that winter in the Highlands. Explore the habitats, habits, and ecology of white-tailed deer, furbearers and birds. The day includes a presentation, examination of furs, skulls and other artifacts, a tasty lunch and a snowshoe trek to neat natural places to look for evidence and glimpses of winter wildlife. [More...](#)

On the Trapline

Discover the fascinating world of Canada's and Haliburton County's oldest industry - the fur trade. This intriguing, thought provoking adventure takes you back into history with an 18th century fur trader, along forest and stream with a wildlife biologist to discover Ontario's furbearing animals, and by snowshoe on a trap line with a modern day trapper. [More....](#)

Check the **Youth Outdoors** website for other programs including a **Winter Folk Camp**.

OTHER OUTDOOR NEWS

LIVE OUT LOUD ADVENTURES has a NEW WEBSITE

Check out the new adventures & variety of resource services at:

www.liveoutloudadventures.com

RESOURCES

THE EVERGREEN FOUNDATION

<http://www.evergreen.ca>

The Evergreen Foundation is an innovative national charity with the goal of making cities more liveable through creating and sustaining outdoor spaces in schools, communities and homes. Check out their website for a great variety of programs and resources including a quarterly electronic newsletter called *The Outdoor Classroom*.

LIVE GREEN TORONTO

www.livegreentoronto.ca

Live Green Toronto is a new five-year program developed to encourage community groups to take on green projects that will reduce greenhouse gases.

Funding opportunities and resources currently exist for schools in the GTA.

Mary-Margaret McMahon looks forward to meeting with school groups to both explain this program and to assist in the creation of worthy green projects.

Contact Information: spargy@rogers.com or 647-456-3184

RECENT RESEARCH FINDINGS

THE DIRT ON OUTDOOR PLAY

With thanks to COEO member Gail Kuder for forwarding this, the following comes from the December newsletter of a children's play organization in England.

Children should be allowed to play in the dirt because being too clean can impair the skin's ability to heal itself, new research suggests. Scientists at the University of California at San Diego have discovered that bacteria on the surface of the skin plays an important role in combating inflammation when we get hurt. The bugs dampen down overactive immune responses, which can lead to rashes or cause cuts and bruises to become swollen and painful. The findings support previous research which suggests that exposure to germs during early childhood can prime the immune system to prevent allergies. Parenting groups yesterday welcomed the findings as 'a vindication of common sense' and urged parents to allow their children greater freedom to play outdoors. Parents Outloud, the pressure group, said the research provides scientific support for its campaign to prevent children being mollycoddled by health and safety regulations.

For the article, click on the link below, or cut and paste into your browser:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/healthnews/6630394/Children-should-be-allowed-to-play-in-the-dirt-new-research-suggests.html>

ABOUT THIS ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

For consistency, the COEO electronic newsletter is published on the first of each month.

Friends of COEO can receive this newsletter free of charge however, as non-members, they will not receive the outdoor education job postings or other parts of the newsletter. While the "Friends of COEO" edition will generally be posted on the COEO website on the first of the month, non-members will not receive it until a few days later.

Anyone having an item of interest to outdoor & experiential educators and desiring publication in this newsletter needs it to submit to the editor at least two days before the publication date. If your organization wishes to post information (e.g., job postings, notice of upcoming events), it needs to be an organizational member of COEO.

Back copies of this newsletter are posted on our website: www.coeo.org/electon_news.htm