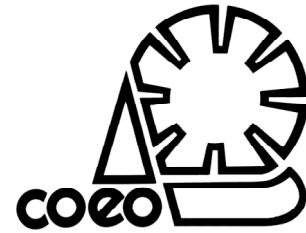


# **FRIENDS of COEO NEWSLETTER**

The Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario

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

Editor: Grant Linney  
October 5, 2008



*Please consider the environment before printing this newsletter.*

## **WHY NOT CONSIDER BECOMING A COEO MEMBER??**

A membership in COEO provides you with several benefits as well as enabling the organization to make effective strides for OEE in the province and with government. Please go to [www.coeo.org/membership.htm](http://www.coeo.org/membership.htm) to review the full list of benefits including a regular member's newsletter that includes outdoor education job postings as well as other information not included in the "Friends of COEO" version. (The member's version of this October newsletter is 12 pages in length.)

## **THE PATHWAYS JOURNAL for 2008-09: WILL THAT BE HARD COPY AND/OR DIGITAL??**

For the first time in its history, COEO will now offer its flagship Pathways journal in hard copy and/or digital format.

## **NEW REDUCED PRICING FOR COEO RESEARCH SUMMARIES**

Go to [www.coeo.org/news.htm](http://www.coeo.org/news.htm) to check out the reduced pricing for COEO's widely praised document summarizing the current and international research into the multiple benefits of OEE.

## **COEO CONFERENCE 2008**

Last weekend's annual conference at Camp Kandalore in Haliburton was a great success:

- We had **143 enthusiastic registrants**, one of our best turnouts in several years.
- We enjoyed the fine company of kindred spirits, great food, an exciting silent and also a live auction, innumerable late night animated conversations, a Friday night Kandalore campfire, and a rousing Saturday night square dance.
- Two great additions to the conference were **graduate student poster presentations** and a series of **roundtable discussions** among various affinity groups.
- A variety of stimulating session offerings featuring **thought-provoking presentations** and great professional development

# THE UPCOMING FEDERAL ELECTION

*The following does not represent the views of COEO as an organization, however, this editor believes that it represents "common ground" for most if not all outdoor educators.*

There has been an unprecedented commentary from Canadian charitable organizations and other NGO's as to the critical importance of the upcoming federal election in terms of environmental issues. Recent jitters about the economy pale in comparison to these huge, pressing and overarching issues. And, so, the purpose of this section is seek a commitment to three actions:

- 1) Get out and VOTE. You are very much a part of the problem if you do not seek to be a part of the solution.
- 2) Make environment your number one priority. We simply cannot have a healthy economy without a healthy ecology.
- 3) Take the time to visit the web sites and links suggested below. I believe that they contain information crucial to how you vote. Vote strategically.

**Alternatives Journal**: The Executive Editor of this publication has selected a few articles from past issues of Alternatives that will help Canadians to better understand the green platforms put forward by the various federal parties: [http://alternativesjournal.ca/newsletter/AJ\\_Update\\_Sept\\_08\\_2.html](http://alternativesjournal.ca/newsletter/AJ_Update_Sept_08_2.html)

**Avaaz**: a global organization with a Canadian chapter currently focussed on preventing Stephen Harper from forming a majority government. [https://secure.avaaz.org/en/stop\\_harper/](https://secure.avaaz.org/en/stop_harper/)

**Climate Action Network**: This is a coalition comprised of more than 100 Canadian organizations committed to making climate change a top concern for all Canadians.  
<http://www.climateactionnetwork.ca/e/>

**Earth Policy Institute**: Read the following article by Lester R. Brown:  
[http://www.earthpolicy.org/Books/Seq/PB3ch13\\_ss7.htm](http://www.earthpolicy.org/Books/Seq/PB3ch13_ss7.htm)

**Greenpeace Canada**: Outspoken and compelling. <http://www.greenpeace.org/canada/en/>

**Pembina Institute**: A Canadian organization focussing on sustainable energy solutions  
<http://www.pembina.org/>

**Sierra Club Canada**: A ranking of our federal parties on the eve of "the climate crisis election"  
<http://www.sierraclub.ca/national/vote-canada/2008/voters-guide-climate-crisis-election.pdf>

**Suzuki Foundation**: The David Suzuki Foundation is an environmental charity that is widely respected for its sound science. Even as a charity that is not permitted to officially take political sides, David Suzuki has some very compelling things to say. In particular, check out his recent "Science Matters" columns.  
<http://www.davidsuzuki.org/>

**Vote for Climate**: A Canadian organization focussed on strategic voting for climate change;  
<http://www.voteforclimate.ca/en/index.php>

**Vote for Environment**: Another Canadian organization focussed on strategic voting.  
<http://www.voteforenvironment.ca/>

# UPCOMING P.D. OPPORTUNITIES

## ADVENTUREWORKS!

Upcoming opportunities this fall for high calibre OEE professional development.  
For more details, go to [www.adventureworks.org](http://www.adventureworks.org) or call 877-311-5683.

Course Name	Date	Location
Special Events		
“Teamwork & Teamplay” with Jim Cain	November 21	Norval Outdoor School, Norval C
“Nuts & Bolts” with Jim Cain	November 22	Norval Outdoor School, Norval C
Facilitation Training		
Facilitating Adventure Based Learning	October 6-7	Canterbury Hills, Ancaster ON

## BARK LAKE LEADERSHIP CENTRE FALL OPPORTUNITIES

1-888-517-9999 Ext. 222

- |   |                                      |                 |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1) <b>Green Check GPS Course</b>                    | <b>October 9, 2008 9 am to 6 pm</b>  | <b>\$50.00</b>  |
| 2) <b>Wild Education</b> (Project Wild; Below Zero) | <b>October 20, 2008 9 am to 5 pm</b> | <b>\$60.00</b>  |
| 3) <b>Wild Education Trainer</b>                    | <b>November 15-16, 2008</b>          | <b>Cost TBA</b> |

## ALL HANDS IN THE DIRT      November 13-15, 2008      Toronto Botanical Garden

### **A Forum on the Design of Children's Outdoor Spaces**

Where do children play? Too often it is indoors or on the barren grounds of daycares and schools. Now, though, there is a growing movement among landscape designers, architects, teachers, principals, parents and others to change this. Want to learn more? Join the Toyota Evergreen Learning Grounds for a vibrant forum in Toronto focusing on the design of healthy, natural and creative children's outdoor spaces. For more info, go to:

<http://www.evergreen.ca/en/lq/allhands2008.html> (Thanks to COEO member Gail Kuder)

## RISK IN EDUCATION CONFERENCE RE-SCHEDULED

The Algonquin College Risk in Education Conference has now been re-scheduled for February 17-19, 2009. It will be held at the Upper Ottawa Valley Campus of Algonquin College in Pembroke, ON. For more information and for registration, go to:

<http://www2.kinumok.com/maestro/link/1852956497/3/78450/120641825/2/1817232/1/2291/2296/-/lnk.htm>

# **RESOURCES**

## **RESOURCES FOR RETHINKING**

Learning for a Sustainable Future has developed an inventory/database of over 500 high quality teaching resources called Resources for Rethinking. Each of them has been curriculum-matched for all regions and territories across Canada. They include lessons and activities that promote the development of an environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable society and must also meet rigorous criteria for good pedagogy. Users may search for resources by grade, region, classroom subject, sustainability issue, or language (English & French). [www.r4r.ca](http://www.r4r.ca)

## **INTERNATIONAL YOUTH SYMPOSIUM FOR BIODIVERSITY**

July 5-9, 2009

Ottawa, ON

Organizers for this second International Youth Symposium are looking for teams of youth/students (Grades 6-12) who are actively involved in biodiversity projects. Some delegate and travel support may be available.

This event is meant to bring youth together from around the world to share their biodiversity related projects and to help revise and create a youth accord to present to world leaders at the UN General Assembly. The event itself will be a wonderful opportunity for youth to learn about the global community amidst the beauty and welcoming atmosphere. Youth delegates can expect educational, recreational and cultural interaction and social networking, in a fun and safe nature environment. For more information, go to: <http://www.biodiversitymatters.org>

## **NATIONWIDE CAMPAIGN: ONE MILLION ACTS OF GREEN**

This October 21st, CBC's late-night talk show *The Hour with George Stroumboulopoulos* will kick off a nationwide campaign that will run through to June 2009 with the collective goal of changing how we live and how we treat the planet, one act at a time. Several prominent environmental NGO's have joined *The Hour* in this effort.

For more information, go to: [www.onemillionactsofgreen.com](http://www.onemillionactsofgreen.com)

## **ABOUT THIS FRIENDS OF COEO ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER**

For consistency, the members' COEO electronic newsletter is now published on the first of each month. Non-members can receive this "Friends of COEO" version free of charge, however, will come a few days later and it will not include outdoor education job postings as well as certain other items.