



REVIEW

Canada and Sustainable Development: Progress or Postponement?



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for a Commissioner
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Can We Get Past the Easy Part?

Kelly Hawke Baxter

Two years ago, the Earth Summit at Rio de Janeiro brought world leaders together to focus on the most critical issues we face as a global community. They declared sustainable development a global imperative and, as signatories to Agenda 21, made commitments to make the changes necessary to realizing sustainability. Canada was among those signatories.

However, according to Statistics Canada's *Human Activity and the Environment 1994*, two years later Canadians remain among the world's highest per capita users of both energy and water, and the greatest producers of waste; we continue to produce toxic substances that do not go away. Some observers argue that the many sustainable develop-

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NRT REVIEW

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EDITORIAL

Canada's Progress

This issue of the *NRT Review* asks the question: Are we making progress toward sustainable development? It proved to be a very difficult question to answer, because we don't yet have the indicators and information systems we need to measure our progress. Nevertheless, we interviewed over 25 experts across the country who think about sustainable development on a daily basis. The cover story reflects their opinions. Yes, we're making progress, they say, but the hard part still lies ahead.

Readers' Survey

The National Round Table launched the inaugural issue of the *Review* in the summer of 1991. Looking back, we've come a long way since then. In 1991, our mailing list had less than 1,000 names. Now we send the *Review* to over 12,000 people — in Canada, the U.S. and overseas. In 1991, the National Round Table had four publications. Now it has over 50 — 10 books, 26 working papers, and over a dozen reports and products.

We know from the letters and phone calls we receive that many of you enjoy reading the *Review*. Donald Gordon, administrator of the Muskoka Heritage Foundation, says the *Review* "is simply the best publication that we receive on a regular basis. We hope that you can continue the excellent work."

We are grateful for the encouragement. But we thought it might be about time to put the question formally to you, our readers. How do you like the *Review*? The content, the format? What issues would you like to see covered? Please take a moment to answer the survey attached to this issue. We'd like to serve you better.

The National Round Table Review is a free newsletter, published quarterly by the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy. The *NRT Review* aims to provide a cross section of information and opinions on sustainable development and related issues in Canada. The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the National Round Table.

Quotation with appropriate credit is appreciated and encouraged.

If you would like to contribute an article, or if you would like more information on the NRTEE and its activities, please contact our office:

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ment bodies and multi-stakeholder consultations that Canada has engaged in produce much more talk than action; or worse, postpone the need for real change.

Two years after Rio, the question hangs like still air: "Is Canada making progress toward sustainable development?"

To arrive at a clear answer is difficult. We don't yet have the information systems we need to measure our progress. We have no common yardstick for measuring sustainable development. Sustainable development requires integrated decision making; it requires new indicators that merge social, environmental and economic data.

Rosaline Frith, Director of Reporting at the State of the Environment Reporting Directorate in Environment Canada, struggles with the problem daily. She is responsible for producing Canada's State of the Environment Report. "In many areas we don't have enough data to be able to understand exactly what's happening, and that's a big part of the problem," she says.

Nevertheless, we cannot wait for perfect indicators or reporting systems to determine whether we are making progress. We can make intuitive judgments, based on what we know today. The National Round Table put the question to several of Canada's leading experts on sustainable development. Is Canada making progress? The answer: a resounding "Yes ... but."

"Yes," experts say, Canada has made enormous progress in increasing awareness of the need for sustainable development and the consequences of unsustainable practices. It is creating the structures and initiatives that are needed to shape Canada's efforts to develop sustainable practices.

"To create an enduring society, we will need a system of commerce and production where each and every act is inherently sustainable and restorative. Business will need to integrate economic, biologic, and human systems to create a sustainable method of commerce. As hard as we may try to become sustainable on a company-by-company level, we cannot fully succeed until the institutions surrounding commerce are redesigned. Just as every act in an industrial society leads to environmental degradation, regardless of intention, we must design a system where the opposite is true, where doing good is like falling off a log, where the natural, everyday acts of work and life accumulate into a better world as a matter of course, not a matter of conscious altruism."

— Paul Hawken, *The Ecology of Commerce*

"But," they add, real changes in the way we carry on economic activity have been relatively small and slow in coming. Canada has done the easy part first: we have struck all the committees, created the strategies, and framed all the initiatives. Now, experts say, we must implement those fundamental changes to the way we live our lives and make our decisions.

Is the Glass Half Full?

Most advocates for sustainable development suggest that moving Canada toward sustainable development requires a paradigm shift: a fundamental shift in attitudes, behaviours, ways of living and making decisions. "We are essentially talking about two different ways of being," says Ann Dale, senior associate at the Sustainable Development Research Institute in Vancouver. As with other profound societal change, this shift must be supported and defined by new language, symbols and institutions.

Experts agree that one indicator of progress is evidence all across Canada, at all levels of society, that new language, concepts and processes are in use. Sustainable development strategies are being created; plans and new organizations and institutions are blossoming.

Sandy Scott, policy advisor for the National Round Table, has spent the last six months researching sustainable development initiatives across the country. "One cannot help but be encouraged by the groundswell of activity across the country," she says. "There are hundreds of efforts to move toward sustainability in this country that just weren't there 10 years ago."

Communities from McAdam, New Brunswick to Nanaimo, B.C. have put in place "green," "healthy," and "sustainable" community activities. More than 200 communities have established local round tables. Hamilton-Wentworth is recognized internationally for its Vision 2020 sustainable development plan. At least 13 communities in Atlantic Canada are participating in the Atlantic Coastal Action Plan to develop strategies for managing coastal resources sustainably. Recycling programs are flourishing across the country. The list goes on.

Canada has established a *Projet de société*, a diverse group of Canadian stakeholders who are mapping out a national sustainable development strategy for the country.

All provinces and territories have created, or are in the process of creating, sustainable development

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strategies. Manitoba is drafting a Sustainable Development Act to ensure that sustainable development principles are embedded in the mandates of all government departments. Ontario has recently passed an Environmental Bill of Rights, and has created an office of Commissioner of the Environment to oversee government policies and activities. Meanwhile, provincial and federal Environment ministers are working to harmonize environmental legislation across the country.

Many professional associations are also undertaking sustainable development activities. The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, for example, has been working to strengthen corporate environmental accountability through improved methods of environmental reporting. The Canadian Standards Association is developing environmental standards. The Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) has endorsed sustainable development and many labour unions have established environmental committees.

Individual companies, too, have shown leadership in moving toward sustainable practices. Many corporations have taken steps to reduce waste, change production processes to become more efficient and less environmentally harmful, and to produce green products. Several companies have conducted envi-

ronmental audits and report publicly on their activities. Shell Canada issues an annual Sustainable Development Report. Ontario Hydro has a comprehensive sustainable development strategy. TransAlta Utilities recently appointed a Senior Vice-President for Sustainable Development. Westin Foods has established a Sustainable Management Group. And environmental technology companies are growing quickly.

The language of sustainable development is penetrating the highest levels of the federal government; its concepts are starting to play a role in shaping policy initiatives. The Liberal government's "Red Book" of campaign promises includes a full chapter on sustainable development. The government promised to move the country closer to sustainability, by among other things, creating an independent office of a Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development. The idea was refined and recommended by the Commons Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development last spring.

The government also promised to review subsidies, incentives and disincentives to sustainable development. Finance Minister Paul Martin has established a Task Force on Economic Instruments and Barriers and Disincentives to Sound Environmental Practices. It will make recommendations to him this fall.

Companies Producing Environmental Reports

Dow Chemical • Ontario Hydro • Noranda Minerals Inc. • Sears Canada Inc. • Imperial Oil • Consumers Gas • CANFOR • Abitibi-Price • Bell Canada • Xerox Canada • Stelco Inc. • Petro-Canada • General Motors • Black and Decker • Sunoco • Bristol-Myers Squibb Company • Shell Canada • B.C. Hydro • The Body Shop • S.C. Johnson

Maurice Strong, secretary-general of the Earth Summit and now Chair of Ontario Hydro, believes Canada is moving in the right direction. "I'm always impatient. I don't think anybody is moving fast enough," Strong says. "On the other hand I do understand that these issues are very fundamental in nature. You can't expect them to happen over night."

Or is the Glass Half Empty?

There is no disputing that many sustainable development initiatives are underway across the country. The more important, and more difficult question is: How significant are they? Are we seeing any *real* change? Are we yet moving from theory to practice, from strategy to action? And are we moving *fast* enough? Most sustainable development experts say that in terms of tangible, real change, our progress has been extremely modest.

"You can say we're making progress because a lot of people are talking about the concept (of sustainable development) and a lot of efforts are being made to do something with it," says Elizabeth May, Executive Director of the Sierra Club of Canada. "But when you look at how Canada performs overall, there's no question that we're not (making progress)."

Many experts share May's opinion. "In terms of making our overall development patterns more sustain-

"Recent Canadian research indicates that a five-hectare parcel of land containing a generous mix of natural resources could sustain consumption by one Canadian indefinitely. If the world population of 5.5 billion people consumed productive land at the rate of an average Canadian, the total requirement would be about 27 billion hectares. However the planet has only 9 billion hectares of productive cropland, pasture and forest available. If we allotted each person on the planet an equal share, everyone would receive 1.7 hectares, requiring Canadians to reduce their resource through-put consumption by two thirds."

— CCME Environmental Scan, 1993

able than they were, we're not making much progress at all," says David Runnalls, an Ottawa-based sustainable development consultant and member of the Ontario Round Table on the Environment and the Economy. "We aren't making much progress on the big ticket items, like integrating the environment into economic decision making at all levels....The federal government doesn't take any more account of the environment now in its economic decisions than it did five years ago," Runnalls says.

And we haven't made much progress on integrating the human well-being considerations of sustainable development into our decision making, says Tony Hodge, chair of the NRTEE's task force on reporting. "We still look at sustainable development as an environmental issue."

Some say business too, isn't moving fast enough. Business is not proactive enough, says Art Hanson, President of the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD). "The business sector is by and large responsive. They are not taking full advantage of their capacity to be innovative and provide real leadership," Hanson says.

Meanwhile unsustainable practices go on much as before, experts say: for all the talk, strategies and plans, we continue to erode our natural resource base on a daily basis.

According to François Bregha, president of Resource Futures International, an important sign of lack of progress is government's failure to use its power to send the right economic signals. Ultimately only government can create the economic conditions that will support sustainable development.

"It is only through changes in our economic behaviour that we can really make the changes needed to ensure environmental security and sustainability," Strong says. And that means we need to re-examine the

Fraser Basin Management Program

The Fraser Basin Management Program is a unique program which brings together four orders of government and non-government agencies to work together toward the economic, environmental and social sustainability of the entire Fraser River Basin.

The Program was established in 1992 and was given a five year mandate. Its 19-member Board developed a strategic plan which outlines work in five areas including: development of key management strategies for the Basin (i.e., water resources, fisheries and aquatic habitat, pollution prevention, and community development in watersheds); demonstration projects which showcase sustainability in action at the local level; institutional development including getting people to the table to work more effectively together; monitoring vital signs in the Basin; and information, communications and education.

After two years of public consultation, steering committee activities and intergovernmental workshops, the Board is now moving into a more active, hands-on phase. In its vision of watershed management, the Board emphasizes a merging of top-down and bottom-up approaches to managing the Basin, one which takes a watershed planning approach and involves local, consensus-based decision making. In May, 1995, the Board will publish a State of the Basin Report outlining progress being made toward sustainability and later, a comprehensive Strategy for Sustainability of the entire Fraser Basin (May 1997).

For more information contact Ray McAllister: 604-660-1177.

whole system of fiscal incentives, taxes and subsidies through which we motivate economic behaviour. "Most of these were put in place to serve objectives that have nothing to do with sustainable development," Strong says. "[Finance Minister] Paul Martin has made it clear that he is going to take the lead in re-examining this...and I think that this is the most important single thing that can be done."

Another area where change has been slow in coming is in our pricing system, Bregha says. Changing economic behaviour will require changes in our pricing methods to include environmental costs. Until the full costs of our actions and economic activity are included in prices, we will continue, often inadvertently, to make unsustainable choices. "We need a pricing system that sends the right signals. It doesn't right now — environmental externalities are not reflected in the price of products," Bregha says.

Louis Lapierre, professor and chair of sustainable development at Moncton University, gives a chilling example of the way the current pricing

system works: "The last fish caught in the ocean will still be a dollar added to our GNP."

Steeper energy prices would have a tremendous effect on behaviour, says Elizabeth May: "There's no excuse for having low energy prices when we know the importance of accurate market signals, the importance of internalizing actual costs. We should absolutely have a carbon tax. It is the most sensible thing we can do to redirect society's behaviour toward sustainability, to make the cost of fossil fuel products reflect something close to their actual environmental cost."

Specific Issues Facing Canada Today

This "yes...but" ambiguity can also be seen in some of the major, tangible sustainable development issues facing Canada, such as natural resource management, waste management and international commitments. For every sign of progress there is a big "but."

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From Promise to Practice

Charles Caccia

Earlier this year the government asked the Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development to consider how a number of government functions related to sustainable development could best be performed. Chair Charles Caccia outlines the Committee's recommendations for a Commissioner for the Environment and Sustainable Development.

In 1987, the Brundtland Commission brought the concept of sustainable development to the attention of the world. Since then the Canadian government has resoundingly declared its support for this principle on many occasions, from New York in 1987 and Toronto in 1988 to the Hague in 1989 and most recently in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. However, although some positive measures have been taken in the past few years to implement the concept of sustainable development, in most cases our actions have not matched our rhetoric.

In the 1993 election campaign, all major political parties committed themselves again to the concept of sustainable development. In particular the current government made several specific promises designed to further the implementation of environmentally sustainable policies.

Against this background, in March 1994, the government asked the Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development to consider a number of functions related to the campaign promises and determine how they could best be performed. As a result of its deliberations, the Committee has concluded that the most appropriate way to implement the government's proposed functions is through the creation of a Commissioner for the Environment and Sustainable Development, in conjunction with an expanded role for the office of the Auditor General.

In hearings held between March and May, 1994, countless witnesses before the Committee stressed the need for a proactive approach to Sustainable Development at this point in time. This approach would be similar to the one taken by previous governments with respect to other emerging issues such as human rights and official languages. This proactive role is the purview of a Commissioner whose functions typically include policy evaluation, forward-looking advice, anticipation, prevention, advocacy, and the coordination of diverse initiatives.

The Committee therefore believes the creation of a Commissioner for the Environment and Sustainable Development is a priority — one which appropriately answers the request of the government and will provide the necessary momentum for the shift toward sustainable development.

At the same time, the Committee has concluded that an expansion of the role of the Auditor General would enhance the accountability aspect of existing public policy related to the environment. This rear-view-mirror role could provide useful insights on past performance and complement the primary work performed by the Commissioner.

In adopting the Committee's recommendations the government of Canada will be giving substance to its commitment to an environmentally sustainable future, and resume its

rightful place as a leader in the world community.

Charles Caccia, MP, is Chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development.

Did you know?

- **Using a gas-powered lawn mower for one hour generates more air pollution than driving 340 miles in a new car.**
- **A chain saw used for two hours produces the same amount of hydrocarbons as a new car driven 3,000 miles.**
- **Stabilizing atmospheric concentrations of long-lived greenhouse gases such as CO₂ would require immediate 60% reductions in current emissions from human activity worldwide.**
- **Canadians are the trustees of almost 25% of all the world's wetlands, which cover about 14% of the land area of Canada.**
- **Since the beginning of the 19th century, marshes along the Canadian shore of Lake Ontario have been reduced in area by 40%.**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1 The Committee recommends that the Government establish a new Office designated the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development.

2 The Committee recommends that the following be the functions of the new Commissioner's Office:

- a. To evaluate all federal policies, laws, regulations, programs and guidelines to determine those which encourage and those which impede Canada's progress toward sustainable development, and to make recommendations accordingly.
- b. To examine all federal policies, laws, regulations, programs and guidelines to determine the extent to which they comply with Canada's international commitments, including protocols, treaties and conventions, in the area of sustainable development.
- c. To report to Parliament at least annually and more frequently if, in the judgement of the Commissioner, the matter is of utmost importance to Canada's commitment to sustainability.
- d. To coordinate sustainable development tools and information to prevent overlap and duplication.

3 The Committee recommends that the new Commissioner's Office be assigned the following additional responsibilities:

- a. To encourage consultation and cooperation between the federal and provincial levels of government with respect to sustainable development.
- b. To liaise with government, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders to monitor and report on the evolution of sustainable development concepts, practices and technologies.
- c. To advocate to Canadians the necessity for sustainable development in all of our actions.
- d. To encourage and provide opportunities for Canadians and interested groups to make suggestions for enhancing Canada's sustainable development initiatives.
- e. To provide advice and guidance, through Parliament, about new approaches which would accelerate the transition to sustainable development.

4 The Committee recommends that The Office of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development be established by new and separate legislation.

5 The Committee recommends that the legislation establishing the Commissioner's Office contain a preamble setting out the legislative intention in creating The Office and its mandate.

6 The Committee recommends that the legislation creating the new Office contain a definition of sustainable development inspired by that found in *Our Common Future*. (This definition might be broadened to include the concepts of inter-generational equity, and the integration of economy, environment and equity. The New Zealand definition of sustainable management could serve as a good example.)

7 The Committee recommends that the legislation require the Commissioner to submit an annual report to Parliament, but also that it grant the power to the Commissioner to report more frequently whenever there is an issue of sufficient significance, in the opinion of the Commissioner, to necessitate its being brought to the attention of Parliament.

8 The Committee recommends that all reports produced by the Commissioner be referred automatically to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development, and to one or more other Parliamentary committees if the subject matter of the report makes that appropriate or necessary.

9 The Committee recommends that the Commissioner be granted, in the legislation, adequate access to information powers, commensurate with his or her mandate.

10 The Committee recommends that the legislation provide that the appointment of the Commissioner must be with the approval of Parliament; that the Commissioner hold office during a term of five years, which term may be renewed once; and that the Government consider the advisability of paying the Commissioner a salary equivalent to that of a puisne judge of the Supreme Court of Canada.

11 The Committee recommends that the legislation establishing the Commissioner's Office be subject to a Parliamentary review every five years.

12 The Committee recommends that (a) one of the first aspects of federal policy to be evaluated by the Commissioner should be the capacity of Environment Canada to lead the Government's shift toward sustainability; and (b) as a complement, the Commissioner should evaluate the evolution and progress of other departments toward sustainable development.

13 The Committee recommends that the Commissioner have the discretionary power to appoint individuals to one or more advisory committees to assist the Office in the performance of its duties. This power should be specifically included in the Commissioner's enabling legislation.

14 The Committee recommends that The Office of Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development consist of a full-time equivalent staff of 30 professional and 15 support staff.

15 The Committee recommends that The Office of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development be allocated an annual budget of \$5 million.

16 The Committee recommends that the Government of Canada fund The Office of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development from within existing budgets.

17 The Committee congratulates the Auditor General on his initiatives related to environmental protection and encourages the Auditor General to continue to evolve this role. In addition, the Committee recommends that the Auditor General Act be amended to meet new requirements in the performance of such a role.

Building on Existing Efforts: Encouraging Trends are Evident

Jim Leslie

A number of encouraging signs suggest that Canada is indeed making progress toward sustainable development. Jim Leslie, Senior Vice-President of Sustainable Development at TransAlta Corp., highlights the trends toward economic instruments, removal of disincentives, and voluntary initiatives.

The 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro was an event which crystallized world awareness of sustainable development. In decades to come, it may well be remembered as the forum where the challenge was given to Canada and the rest of the international community to not only talk sustainable development but to take action.

Given this challenge, has Canada made progress towards sustainable development?

While some will argue about whether we are making progress *at the appropriate rate*, the fact remains that progress *is* being made. And a number of encouraging trends are evident.

Just to give three examples, there are signs of growing interest in Canada in:

- the use of economic instruments,
- the removal of barriers and disincentives to sound environmental practices, as well as
- the use of voluntary initiatives by business and other organizations.

Over the last couple of years, I had the pleasure of co-chairing the national Economic Instruments Collaborative (EIC), a self-supporting group with members from business, environmental groups and the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy, as well as

observers from the federal and some provincial governments.

The EIC was formed in early 1992 to explore approaches to Canada's air quality issues involving the use of economic instruments. It resulted from discussions among environmental groups and members of the business community who believed there had to be more efficient ways to protect the environment and maintain a healthy economy, both at the same time.

As members of the EIC, we view well-designed economic instruments as complementing traditional regulatory approaches. We recommend the use of broadly based instruments capable of sending price signals throughout the entire economy to encourage more sustainable use of scarce environmental resources. These instruments would encourage a change in consumer behaviour as well as innovation by both users and producers. In late 1993 the EIC published its report, *Achieving Atmospheric Quality Objectives Through the Use of Economic Instruments*. The report covers three environmental issues: acid deposition, ground-level ozone and greenhouse gases.

To prepare the report, working-level task forces were established to tackle each issue. Each task force looked at the pros and cons of various economic instruments in relation to the specific issue, made a preliminary review of the choice of

an appropriate instrument and made important progress toward a process for implementation.

As well as focusing on economic instruments, the EIC looked at a variety of complementary measures to address environmental issues. As part of its recommendations to address greenhouse gases, the EIC proposed the removal of subsidies that work against the goal of greenhouse gas stabilization. It also recommended that corporations and institutions be encouraged to undertake voluntary actions that contribute to Canada's greenhouse gas stabilization targets.

In its report, the EIC stated the hope "that our experience will advance models for a new way of doing business that will change perspectives and accelerate progress."

Today, the efforts of the EIC, as well as the advocacy efforts of other organizations, are producing important results. A number of recent developments attest to increasing Canadian interest in economic instruments, subsidy removal and voluntary initiatives.

Earlier this year the Federal Task Force on Economic Instruments and Disincentives To Sound Environmental Practices was established. This multi-stakeholder organization will report to government in November on barriers and disincentives to environmental practices and effec-

tive ways to use economic instruments to protect the environment.

As well, government is taking increasing interest in the use of voluntary initiatives by business and other organizations. By the fall of this year, the Canadian government will complete a plan to achieve the country's international commitment of stabilizing greenhouse gas emissions at 1990 levels by the year 2000. As part of the plan, a voluntary challenge program will encourage contributions by industry toward our national greenhouse gas stabilization goal. As we participate in this initiative, we will have the opportunity to take advantage of recent experience in the United States that has included a voluntary approach by industry to achieve greenhouse gas stabilization.

Someone once said, if you want to build good pathways, watch where people are walking. This is a good principle to remember as we consider the opportunity of building cost-effective ways to help Canada progress toward sustainable development. In designing frameworks of action to address sustainable development, we must consider and build on the flow of energy and intentions of people and organizations already at work.

Today, as exemplified by the EIC and other organizations, there is a movement of people and organizations ready for action on economic instruments, subsidy removal and voluntary initiatives. This natural flow of action should be encouraged by an enabling framework of government policy. In so doing, we will build our capabilities as Canadians to achieve progress in meeting our environmental and economic goals.

Jim Leslie is Senior Vice-President, Sustainable Development, TransAlta Corporation. He is co-chair of the national Economic Instruments Collaborative, and an Associate of the Business Council For Sustainable Development (BCSD), an international group of senior executives dedicated to providing business leadership as a catalyst for change toward sustainable development.

Promoting Eco-Efficiency

The international Business Council For Sustainable Development (BCSD) is currently publishing a discussion paper entitled "Internalizing Environmental Costs to Promote Eco-Efficiency." The following is excerpted from that report.

“There is an increasing realization of the value of internalizing environmental costs. Governments, along with industry and environmental groups, are pointing to economic instruments as one of the best approaches to internalizing environmental costs. But despite this growing support, a gap remains between talk and action. The leadership of government, business and other stakeholders is needed to design appropriate policy frameworks that enable and support the expanded use of economic instruments.

As the World Bank has commented: "Instead of lobbying for protection, industries struggling with environmental expenditures should lobby for better environmental policies, i.e., standards and policies that encourage efficient abatement."

Governments are now considering their national sustainable development strategies as called for in the Agenda 21 action program agreed to at the Earth Summit. These strategies offer the opportunity to incorporate new and flexible market-based approaches to achieve environmental goals. These strategies should include:

- the application of economic instruments, chosen on the basis of effectiveness, simplicity and enforceability.
- a tax shift away from labour and investment to value-depleting activities such as pollution and the inefficient use of environmental resources.
- the broad internalization of costs over a defined period with a set timetable.
- the immediate reduction and eventual removal of subsidies that encourage the exploitation of all resources by understating their market value or environmental costs.
- national voluntary agreements with business sectors through the use of covenants, pledges and programs.
- complementary reform of existing regulations to allow economic instruments to operate smoothly and effectively.
- education and information programs aimed at increasing the public's understanding of the role and benefits of economic instruments.

Economic instruments should not be viewed simply as mechanisms to use on a case-by-case basis to solve individual environmental problems, but as a broad means of shifting the balance of incentives in the marketplace towards high levels of economic and environmental performance.”

Copies of the report can be obtained by contacting the **BCSD** (tel: +41-22-788 3202, fax: +41-22-788 3211).

Canadians Must Rise to the Challenge

Susan Tanner

Canadians have what it takes to achieve sustainability, Susan Tanner says, but we've lost the momentum. It's time to get back on track.

Where are we on the road to sustainability? Traumatized, in bed, at a roadside inn, with the covers over our heads. When we sleep, our nightmares are of Economy, Ecology and Equity fighting each other unto death.

We started out with great idealism, gathered up the things we thought we would need along the way. But it turned out to be a much longer journey than expected, with lots of delays for road construction, detours and dead ends.

Despite the best efforts of the *Projet de société*, Canada is not yet moving forward on a national sustainability strategy. Internationally, the Commission for Sustainable Development is getting mired in UN "diplotalk" and red tape. Transnational corporations control more resources than many nation states — without any accountability to the public good. There is no world government to enforce international environmental regulation. The numbers of refugees are on the increase. Social and environmental programs around the world, including Canada, are falling victim to "structural readjustment".

We are not coming to terms with the major factors leading us away from sustainability. Apparently, we didn't have what we needed for the trip. Some of the things we packed were:

1. *Heritage of social responsibility.* Historically Canadians have expected their government to provide certain basic social services. Canadian pioneers knew that their survival meant reaching out, pooling resources and supporting each other. Canadians

recognize that we cannot have freedom without the limits of law, cannot have rights without responsibilities. We do not live by the U.S. dictum of "survival of the fittest," but by a more gentle standard of modified unsocialism — a caring about the social fabric of the country and its less advantaged citizens.

2. *Agreement on the need to develop a green industry and to reduce our dependence on natural resources.* One thing that both the private and public interest groups in Canada agree on is the need to evolve our economy away from dependence on natural resources and toward green technologies. Canada has a marvellous opportunity to take a leadership role in the development of sustainable business practices.
3. *Visionary, committed NGO community and mechanism to fund the consensus-building process among different public interest sectors.* The government has supported voluntary public interest groups. At the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992, the Canadian government stood up for the rights of NGOs, and women particularly, to make their contribution.

4. *Experience in and success with multi-stakeholder processes.* It is no accident that Canadians are committed to various multi-stakeholder processes. The nature of Canadian democracy differs from other countries in its more consultative approach — exactly the style needed on the international stage to achieve sustainability.

So, if we had the right attitude, reputation, experience, and vision to be national and international leaders in

sustainability, what happened en-route?

1. *Loss of momentum and public interest collaboration.* Government restraint initiatives have increasingly cut off much of the traditional support to the NGO community. Alternative funders, corporations and foundations, are swamped with requests which they cannot meet. Individuals, themselves experiencing financial restraint, are buried under piles of direct mail appeals. As a result, NGOs, like government and private enterprise, are being forced to lay off employees and face the prospect of going out of business.

Environmental NGOs, struggling to survive as organizations, have to devote their energy to fundraising rather than continuing to push fully on sustainability issues.

The decimation of environmental advocates is a serious problem for Canada, particularly since the government acts primarily as a broker. When the government is left with only business or industry input, it tends to make unbalanced decisions. Sustainable decisions can only be made when there is full consultation, and all points of view are considered.

Without outside pressure, the government's momentum has slowed. As the government has become increasingly preoccupied with downsizing, it has fallen behind public understanding of sustainability. The worst aspect is that government often appears to be dealing with the issues by introducing legislation, when in many cases the legislation remains unenforced.

At the same time few corporations have maintained their forward motion in implementing sustainable resource management. Private entrepreneurs have become preoccupied with short-term survival. Others have regressed into denial of the need for change and have retrenched in a last ditch effort to fight "sustainability". Yet refusing to face the need for sustainability is fatal in the long term — both for business and the species. "Survival of the fittest" will not lead us to real sustainability. To get there, we must cooperate, collaborate and compromise in the finest Canadian tradition.

2. *Internal and international backlash.*

We all experience internal backlash when we try to change our behaviour. Greening our lifestyle can be uncomfortable. Similarly, institutions experience backlash. Progress becomes blocked by inertia and fear and visionary leaders are often censored even if, or perhaps *because*, they are correct in their thinking.

There is only so much change we can accommodate without special support mechanisms and incentives. Planned change requires tax incentives, job retraining, peer support, and celebration of progress. We must take backlash into account; otherwise we cannot avoid some of the detours on the road.

3. *Incomplete vision and lack of alternative models.*

Everyone talks about globalization and free trade with a mixture of awe and fear. Even though the social and environmental costs of unrestricted free trade have been documented, the destruction continues as we follow the dictates of the new harsh dogma of profit.

Canadians mourn the loss of security in our cities, clean air and water, relationships with our neighbours and local businesses. It's easy to throw up our hands and say: "There is nothing we can do. It is bigger than us." Fear of the unknown can immobilize us.

What we need are tangible examples of the new sustainable society — what it looks, feels, smells and sounds like. However, we don't always see that a profound shift in values is already occurring. Canadians are rebuilding healthy communities, becoming involved in schools and community associations, choosing to support local businesses or forming cooperatives. We can resist the "dictates of the global market place" because we are the market place and we know we must rebuild the clean, green and safe communities we have lost.

We cannot return to "the way we were," but we can create a new hybrid model by consciously deciding the kind of community in which we want to live — a community with fewer gadgets and more relationships. We need to experiment and share our success along the way. We need to invest in creating more models. If some of them fail, we can still learn from them. We must not be afraid to dream. Our ideals will keep us going when the way seems difficult.

4. *Institutional gridlock.*

As the Brundtland Report points out, we do not have adequate institutions to deal with the challenge of sustainable development. We need institutions that:

- integrate and coordinate the hundreds of independent agencies involved in each issue. The piecemeal approach results in confusion, inertia and duplication.
- integrate decision-making on economic and ecological issues together. We must go beyond the issue of "jobs or environment", to provide jobs that allow the planet, and all of us, to survive.
- are open to popular participation. Current structures are closed and exclusive when they need to be dynamic and inclusive. The survival of the planet is going to require the various talents of all people who tra-

ditionally have been excluded from decision-making processes, such as women and aboriginal peoples.

So, how do we get out of bed and back on the path? It is a challenge to all of us. Canadians have some comparatively advantageous luggage to take on the journey to sustainability: Canadian heritage of social responsibility and international image; agreed need to develop a green industry; visionary, committed ENGOS with expertise on sustainability; and success with multi-stakeholder processes.

But we need to overcome the roadblocks: loss of ENGO momentum and public interest collaboration; international and internal backlash; incomplete vision and lack of alternative models; and institutional gridlock.

We are left with the challenge:

- to government and industry to hold out a hand to ENGOS;
- to ENGOS to work on models with a purpose higher than profit, yet including it;
- to avoid any detours into despair and fear;
- to create cross-disciplinary, cross-jurisdictional and cross-sectoral approaches to planning;
- to allocate resources so that they support healthy communities here and abroad. That is, to redirect funds from military security to social and environmental security; and
- to dare to dream of the kind of community we want and to make it a reality.

Canadians have the experience and credibility to lead the globe toward sustainability. We only have to meet the challenge.

Susan Tanner is Executive Director of Friends of the Earth, Canada.

CEN Drafts Environmental Code

Jean Arnold

Canada is part of global community and Canadians play an important role in addressing sustainability and environmental issues internationally. The Canadian Environmental Network and CIDA have created a draft Code of Environmental Ethics and Conduct to guide international environmental initiatives.

The Canadian Environmental Network (CEN) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) have produced a draft Code of Environmental Ethics and Conduct, based on a consensus approach that allowed input from a wide range of stakeholders.

The objective of the consensus approach to developing the Code was to establish relationships and understanding among CIDA partners on the critical issue of environmental sustainability; to foster dialogue, facilitate information exchange and to ensure that Canadians are acting consistently internationally.

The project demonstrated the ability and willingness of many participants to identify and challenge personal and organizational principles in hopes of finding common ground and developing tools to address the environmental crisis which most characterized as critical.

The concept of developing a Code of Environmental Ethics and Conduct was discussed during the first Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) consultation with environment groups in 1992.

The project was designed and proceeded in a way that involved CIDA partners and non-government organizations, business and associations in the private sector in Canada in an interactive discussion. The discussion was led by a management team from the CEN and a representative from the Environment Liaison

Centre International, the largest Southern-based environment Network, located in Nairobi, Kenya.

Three stakeholder meetings brought participants together to discuss first a background paper and audiovisual presentation on environmental ethics as well as a preliminary set of principles and later to discuss draft and revised versions of a Code of Environmental Ethics and Conduct.

As the Code title suggests it is a draft discussion document, distributed to organizations and agencies both in Canada and internationally for review and comment.

The CEN has received a huge amount of responses from the first mail-out and is prepared to conduct small workshops for discussion of the CODE for agencies and organizations at their request.

The Canadian Environment Network (CEN) is an association of over 2,000 environmental organizations in Canada, a number of which have working partnership activities on international environment issues.

For further information, please contact: Jean Arnold, CEN Coordinator, Falls Brook Centre, Rural Route #1 Hartland, New Brunswick, E0J 1N0. Fax: 506-375-4221.

Jean Arnold is Executive Director of the Falls Brook Centre, an environmentally based sustainable community development demonstration centre in Knowlesville, New Brunswick.

Did you know?

- **Canada's per capita water use is the second highest in the world.**
- **One out of every three Canadians and one out of every seven U.S. residents depends on the Great Lakes for their water, using almost 140,000 litres of water a second.**
- **In 1991 one in five Canadian municipalities with water systems reported problems with water availability.**
- **Increasing water demand/use requires the construction of new facilities, as well as the expansion of existing facilities, all of which consume energy, land, and other resources.**
- **Costs for these are usually not fully reflected in the prices paid by those who use the water.**
- **In 1991, the typical Canadian used 340 litres of water per day at home — an increase of 7% over 1983.**

CODE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS AND CONDUCT

(revised final draft for discussion, April 1994)

VISION STATEMENT

We recognize that every human being is a part of the community of life on Earth, and that humans are subject to the same immutable ecological laws as all other species. This community links all human societies, present and future generations, and all other parts of Nature. It embraces both cultural and natural diversity.

All life depends on the uninterrupted functioning of natural systems that ensure the supply of energy and nutrients so ecological responsibility among all people is necessary for the survival, security, equity, and dignity of the world's communities. Human culture must be built upon a profound respect for Nature, a sense of being at one with Nature and a recognition that human affairs must proceed in harmony and balance with Nature.

PREAMBLE

Each individual should have the right to a healthy living environment. It follows that no one individual or entity has the privilege to endanger the environment to the extent that it adversely affects ecological sustainability.

Development can only be sustainable in the long term if it ensures the integrity of the planet's life support systems while simultaneously meeting basic human needs. Real sustainable development must involve an effort to integrate development into the natural environment rather than the reverse.

Just as the sustainability of natural systems is maintained by a set of laws which govern the interrelationships of its elements, society needs to promote human ethical values which govern our interrelationship with all things. The role of this Code of Environmental Ethics and Conduct is to articulate shared values so that individuals and organizations may act in a way which is conducive not only to their self-preservation, but also to the well-being of the environment which sustains them. Another function of the code is to act as an adaptive instrument that encourages our obligation towards Nature, which is seen as provider and sustainer of our life support systems.

The following are basic premises governing the code:

Basic Premises Governing the Natural Environment

- The most fundamental unit of the biotic community is life.
- Life has in the course of its evolution produced a diversity of living forms.
- Every life form has a unique history and has co-evolved with other organisms to form natural systems.
- Humankind is a part of Nature and a part of the diversity of living forms.
- Our knowledge and understanding about the complexity, diversity and interrelationships of life and living systems remain rudimentary.
- Because of their physical and intellectual capabilities humans are the life form with the greatest potential to regulate their own activities to affect the elements of natural systems in either a positive or negative way.
- Humans, to varying degrees, have altered the natural systems of the Earth to such an extent that many extinctions have already taken place, and the existence of countless species, including our own, is in jeopardy.
- There is now overwhelming evidence suggesting that the sustainability of our life support systems is incompatible with current consumptive growth patterns and the rate of human population growth.

In accepting these basic ecological premises we agree to the following ethical principles:

- Every life form is unique, and has intrinsic value regardless of any perceived value that it may have for humans.
- We should have profound respect for Nature in all its diverse manifestations.
- It is important for us to maintain or restore a harmonious relationship with other species within the limits of natural systems.
- All persons should take responsibility for their impact on Nature.
- Many local and indigenous peoples (women and men) have a unique knowledge of their regional ecosystems. This knowledge and the culture of which it is a part should be respected and sustained. Local culture should be allowed to determine their own futures.
- We should pursue and adopt the values that will address current consumptive

patterns and the growth of human populations.

- For the benefit of future generations and the survival of the planet's living systems we must plan for the long term.

Based on the above ethical principles we subscribe to the following basic principles of appropriate conduct:

- Considerations of environmental, cultural, social and other values than those measured by economics should be factored into the decision making process as a step towards full cost accounting for proposed projects.
- Due to our limited understanding of their functioning, we recognize that it is the human use of natural ecosystems that must be managed rather than the systems themselves.
- We must avoid actions that contribute to the extinction of any species, or that seriously degrade or eliminate habitats.
- Ecological expertise should be fully incorporated into the development process.
- Development should reflect the needs of local people within local ecosystems. Decision making for just and ecologically sound development must ensure the participation of the individuals and groups most affected by the undertaking. Indigenous or local knowledge of ecosystems and their use should be incorporated into development decisions.
- All those who may be affected by a proposed development should have full access to the planning and decision making process, including all available pertinent information.
- Upstream activities often have unpredictable and detrimental downstream effects. Therefore to the greatest degree possible, the full range of risks surrounding any development project should be assessed as part of the planning process and should be addressed in the design and planning stage before implementation.
- Restoration and sustainable use of degraded ecosystems combined with protection of remaining natural areas should be seen as important aspects of sustainable development initiatives. Precaution should prevail in order to avoid unnecessary remedial action in the future.

N.B. This Code of Environmental Ethics and Conduct addresses the 'environmental' component of sustainable development and not the full range of integrated activities necessary for sustainable development.

The Third Wave

The next wave of popular environmentalism will be the sustainability wave. Doug Miller shares his insights on Canadian public opinion.

I'm one of those who subscribes to the wave theory of change. Fundamental to this view is that change is episodic but relentless. In my view, we are between the second and third waves of environmental change sweeping the world.

The first wave happened in the 60s and focused on visible pollution. A small minority of people awakened to the issues and achieved modest progress on relatively superficial problems like litter, smokestacks, odour and biological water pollution.

During the 70s, energy was the brief preoccupation of society, and the unaddressed environmental problems festered and started to manifest themselves in more complex forms.

The second wave of popular environmentalism was born in the late 80s out of human health concerns and eco-disasters like Bophal, Three Mile Island, and the St. Clair River "Blob". This wave has lasted longer and gone deeper than many expected. It has succeeded in making almost everyone an environmen-

talist, forcing changes in business practice, and making significant progress on reducing environmental risks.

While the second wave was diminished somewhat by the Great Recession, it still has plenty of clout — witness the international follow-through on Agenda 21 and the continuing public demand for environmental progress.

Canadians know there is still a long way to go. Our most recent Environmental Monitor survey asked 1,500 Canadians to assess environmental progress over the last 10 years "compared to the distance we still have to go to reduce pollution to safe levels." Their collective assessment is that we are only 30 per cent of the way there!

In my view, the first two waves of environmental change have done a fair job of retrofitting our society to minimize some key environmental problems, but they have done little to ensure sustainability. This will be the focus of the third wave.

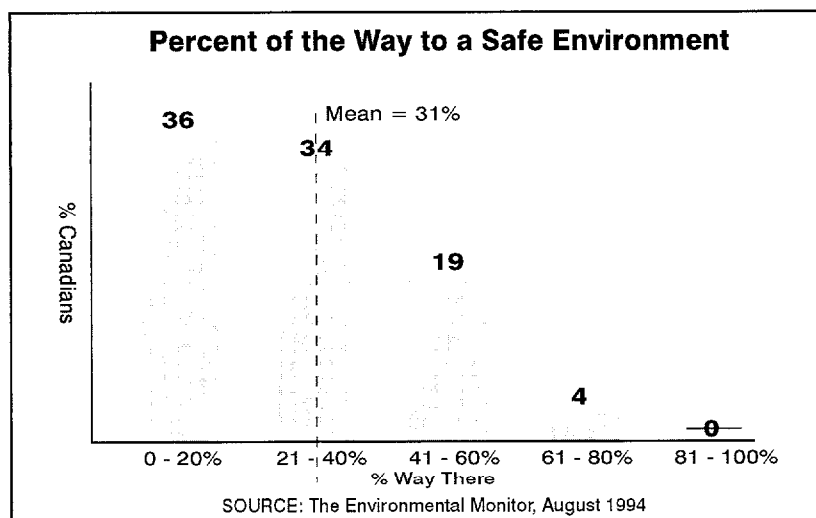
The third wave is the sustainability wave. It will overhaul the machinery of society that continues to point people and enterprise in the wrong direction, rewarding unsustainable pursuits. This wave will ensure more true costs are reflected and whole-system thinking applied to decision making. It will change the economic relationships and signals to ensure the future will not rest only on good intentions.

The third wave will be well supported by Canadians. They know our present course is not sustainable, and they know fundamental changes are needed to secure an acceptable future for their children. Our Environmental Monitor research (consisting of 26 national surveys conducted by Environics Research over the last seven years) reveals an unprecedented opportunity for leadership and real progress.

The third wave is now rising out of the shoulders of the last, driven on by both necessity and opportunity. This wave will get us well beyond symptoms and even environmentalism, to the heart of the matter.

Doug Miller is President of Synergistics Consulting in Toronto. He regularly surveys both general public and expert audiences on sustainable development topics, and presents his strategic conclusions to senior government and industry leaders.

"The first two waves of environmental change have done a fair job of retrofitting our society to minimize some key environmental problems, but they have done little to ensure sustainability."



PROGRESS cont. from pg. 3

"If you make a list of all the things we need to do to achieve sustainable development, for every one you'll be able to show some progress, but not enough to argue that we're turning things around," Bregha says.

Forestry

The debate over Canada's forestry practices is vociferous. Colin Isaacs, an environmental policy consultant, views Canada's record generally as a positive one. "I believe Canadian forestry is doing very well indeed," Isaacs says. "There are many Canadian forest products companies who are doing very well in making progress toward sustainable development, both in terms of their forest operations and their plants."

"Forestry practices have improved over time," says Frith. "Forestry management is now far more cognizant of habitat questions, of water quality questions, of the fact that when you harvest a forest you are not just cutting down the trees...but in fact you are having all these other effects."

British Columbia, amid the controversy of Clayoquot Sound, has developed a new code of practice which includes provisions for re-training displaced forestry workers. Canada has developed a National Forest Strategy premised on sustainable forest management, including development of national indicators. The National Strategy includes a Model Forest Program which is using 10 selected forests across Canada to test integrated decision making and resource management based on sustainable development principles.

But have we done enough? Even the optimists say no. "Absolutely not," says Isaacs. "There is much, much more to be done." Others give but grudging acknowledgment of progress in forestry management. "We've gone from having a truly appalling forest strategy to a not very good one," says Runnalls.

The Fundy Model Forest

The Fundy Model Forest is one of 10 large-scale, working forests across Canada selected to be part of the federal government's Model Forest Program. The program is designed to support the efforts of Canada's provincial governments and other landowners as they develop new ways to manage Canada's forest resources. The Model Forest approach seeks to balance the various economic, environmental, and social needs of the forest's users and inhabitants.

The project is being carried out within an integrated management plan, being developed by a diverse group of players including provincial environment authorities, a large forestry corporation, a cooperative unit of smaller logging companies, scientists, and the public. Each group has diverse and separate goals, but they share one common challenge: to develop an environmentally focused, integrated, and sustainable management strategy of this particular area. It is hoped that the resulting strategy will be a model for forest management around the world.

"We've developed a forum where future plans can be developed with all the stakeholders at the table," says Louis Lapierre, chair of the Fundy Model Forest. "That has never been done before and I think that it's the most important part of the process."

The Fundy Model Forest covers 400,000 hectares. "It's a pretty good example of a success story in sustainability," Lapierre says.

Despite efforts, harvesting rates continue to exceed regeneration by over 2 million hectares, according to government statistics. But the gap is narrowing.

Many environmentalists are still discouraged by Canada's record in forestry, asserting that for all the talk, we are cutting old-growth forests, using far too much clear-cutting, and overall our practices are not sustainable. "In forest practices we're no closer to sustainability than we were 10 years ago," May says.

Agriculture

Federal and provincial governments have created programs to lessen the negative impact of agriculture practices on the environment. The Green Plan includes a commitment to encourage environmentally sound on-farm practices. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada has established a National Agriculture Environment Committee to advise on a national strategy for sustainable agriculture. Ontario's "Our Farm" Environmental Agenda is encouraging the development of 40,000 individual farm plans. And the North American Waterfowl Man-

agement Plan has been successful in restoring wetlands.

But agricultural practices, especially in the Prairies, are not yet sustainable, says Dr. Steven Thompson, agriculture economist and senior associate at the National Round Table. "By no means — economically, socially, or environmentally — is agriculture in the Prairies sustainable, as it is now practised," Thompson says. The fact remains that the soils on which our agriculture depends are continuing to erode and lose their fertility. According to *Human Activity and the Environment*, soil degradation is estimated to cost Canadians more than \$1 billion annually in lost crop productivity.

Perhaps more importantly, the sustainability of rural communities has not been adequately addressed, says Hodge. What will happen to farming communities as international trading pressures force small farmers out of business? "Communities are disappearing and we haven't found a way to deal with the problem effectively," Hodge says.

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Fisheries

There are few encouraging signs in the fisheries sector. The collapse of the Atlantic cod fishery is the most chilling example of unsustainable development this country has seen, many experts agree. Most of the cod fisheries are now closed, causing enormous economic hardship and social destabilization in east coast communities. Governments and various groups are scrambling to react to the crisis with economic plans and alternatives to cod fishing. But many people question whether we have adequately learned the lessons to assure it never happens again — anywhere in Canada. Some say that recent reports from the west coast about threats to the Pacific salmon from overfishing would indicate that we haven't yet learned the lessons.

"I don't think we've caught on to the whole fisheries crisis at all," says Lapierre. We need to look at the ocean as an integrated system, rather than continuing to manage by species, he says.

Hodge says that like agriculture, we're not addressing the huge problem of community sustainability. "It is at the community level that the links

between human well-being and ecological well-being come into play," Hodge says. "But we still haven't learned how to make those links very well."

Climate Change and Energy

At the Earth Summit in Rio, Canada signed an international convention on climate change, promising to reduce our emissions of CO₂ to 1990 levels by the year 2000. The federal government has established a task force on climate change which is recommending a CO₂ reduction strategy to ministers.

Natural Resources Canada has several initiatives to encourage energy efficiency and innovation, such as the Efficiency and Alternative Energy Program. Many provinces also have energy programs, most notably B.C. Hydro's Power Smart program, and Ontario Hydro's strategy for sustainable energy development.

But many experts are doubtful that Canada will be able to meet its climate change commitments. The Canadian demand for energy is the principal cause of greenhouse gas emissions, and, according to Statistics Canada, energy use has tripled since 1958. "If you look at the business-as-usual scenario, emissions are expected to be 15 per cent higher in the year 2000 than they are now," Runnalls says. "That's not progress at all."

"I'm quite certain that until we have some kind of energy tax and realistic energy prices that force us to pay the full cost of energy use, we're not going to make major progress on CO₂ reduction and we're not going to make progress on honouring our international commitments on climate change," Runnalls says. "As it stands now we're likely to come out with a plan that is weak and doesn't go anywhere near meeting our obligations...it isn't going to work."

Canadians still have the highest per capita use of energy in the world. "It is clear that we have made only very modest progress in terms of more efficient use of energy," Strong says. Canada spends roughly \$1 to promote energy efficiency for every \$100 it spends to develop fossil fuels. "The whole system is in large part geared to continuing to provide, however inadvertently, subsidies to unsustainable behaviour," he says.

Ozone

Canada has been successful in meeting its Montreal Protocol commitments to eliminate ozone-depleting substances. "I think ozone is a big success story," Runnalls says. "We have made major progress in eliminating ozone-depleting substances. And we have constructed a fairly successful international program to get the developing countries on board by helping them to develop their own alternatives and substitutes."

Canada is meeting, and in some cases exceeding, its commitments regarding the production and import of ozone-depleting substances. CFC consumption in Canada has declined 58 per cent since 1986.

Although we've phased out the production of new CFCs, we're not doing as good a job managing the CFCs already in existence, according to Jeremy Byatt, former Policy Director of Friends of the Earth. Draining CFCs from air conditioners and refrigerators has not become standard practice. Technicians, mechanics and consumers are not adequately aware of how CFCs should be handled and what services are available to them.

Water

Water quality in Canada is generally high, according to *The State of Canada's Environment*. However, there are problems in industrial, agricul-

Did you know?

- **North Americans account for only 7% of the world's population, but generate half of its waste, and most of its toxic waste.**
- **Canada disposes about 80% of its waste in landfills. Japan recovers or recycles about 70% of its waste.**
- **By 1995 all existing landfills in Canada are expected to be full.**

Cont. on pg. 37

PM Proclaims National Round Table Act

In May, 1994, Prime Minister Jean Chretien proclaimed Bill C-72, officially establishing the National Round Table as an independent departmental corporation. At that time he also announced the appointment of 15 new members, who bring a wide variety of interest and experience to the Round Table. Under its new legislated status the Round Table will continue to report to the Prime Minister and is accountable to the Parliament of Canada. The mandate of the Round Table has not changed, but is now enshrined in legislation: *to act as a catalyst to promote the principles and practices of sustainable development in all regions and in all sectors of Canadian society.*



George Connell

Chair, National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy

Dr. George Connell was appointed Chair of the NRTEE in January, 1991 and reappointed by Prime Minister Jean Chr tien in May, 1994. Dr. Connell joined the Round Table because: "It seemed that the intriguing blend of members, of such quality and diversity, could have an impact on sustainable development in Canada. I looked forward to engaging dialogue on what sustainable development means for Canada and I haven't been disappointed."

Dr. Connell has taught and conducted research in biochemistry for over 30 years. He has also served as president of the University of Western Ontario and the University of Toronto. At present he is Co-chair of the Leadership Council of the Whitehorse Mining Initiative, Chair of the Projet de soci t  National Stakeholders Assembly and Chair of the Technical Environmental Management Committee (207) of the International Standards Organization.

Dr. Connell says he thinks the Round Table "is on the brink of significant change due to the infusion of new members, and made possible by the solid work and continuing support of previous members. The Round Table will flourish with this renewal."

Members Decide on New Priorities

Members of the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy (NRTEE) met July 14 and 15, 1994, in the first substantive session since new members were appointed by the Prime Minister in May. At the two-day planning session at Meech Lake, Quebec, members determined new program areas and priorities for the NRTEE in the coming year. After a full discussion of a range of possibilities and opportunities for the NRTEE to contribute to sustainable development in the next year, members decided to pursue the following new programs and initiatives:

Dialogue on Fisheries and Oceans

The devastation of the East Coast cod fisheries holds important lessons for future management of fish stocks on both the east and west coasts of Canada. A panel of members is establishing an appropriate process to address the economic, social, environmental and cultural aspects of the fisheries crisis, on both of Canada's coasts. For more information contact Steve Thompson: 613-995-7519.

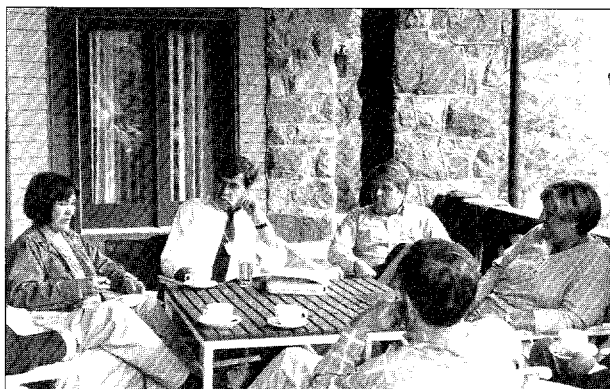
Transportation and Climate Change

The NRTEE is working with the Ontario Round Table to establish a collaborative on climate change in the transportation sector, which will look at ways to reduce CO₂ emissions. The first meeting is scheduled for November 24, 1994, in Toronto. For more information contact Jane Inch: 613-995-3681.

Environmental Technologies

The development of environmental technologies provides increasing opportunities for job creation and export growth. The NRTEE is examining how Canada's R&D policies can support the environmental technology sector, both at home and abroad.

For more information contact Gene Nyberg: 613-995-7581.



At the two-day planning session at Meech Lake, Quebec, members determined new program areas and priorities for the NRTEE in the coming year.

Integrated Resource Management

Integrated resource management is essential for the promotion of sustainable development. A preliminary issues paper, with a focus on energy and mining, will be prepared for consideration at the October plenary, but a program will not begin before 1995.

For more information contact Gene Nyberg: 613-995-7581.

Green procurement

The federal government is one of Canada's largest corporations, with annual purchases totalling about \$6 billion. As such it has tremendous potential to provide leadership in green procurement, as a model to encourage other industries and organizations to alter their purchasing practices. The NRTEE will examine the federal government's procurement policy and will report to the plenary in October on opportunities to promote sustainable purchasing practices.

For more information contact Gene Nyberg: 613-995-7581.

Taxation of Ecological Lands

Some current taxation policies work to discourage the donation of ecologically sensitive land to public trust. As a follow-up to the NRTEE's joint publication with the Wetlands Task Force, *You Can't Give it Away*, the NRTEE will examine relevant case studies illustrating this problem in Canada while simultaneously engaging the Finance Department in continued discussions.

Subsidies and Fiscal Incentives

Six NRTEE members have been appointed to the federal Task Force on Economic Instruments and Barriers and Disincentives to Sound Environmental Practices. The Task Force will make recommendations to the government this fall.

Full-Cost Accounting

The NRTEE has been invited by the Canadian Institute for Chartered Accountants (CICA) to be a partner in a program on full-cost accounting. Members have met with the CICA and Ontario Hydro to discuss directions for future work. For more information contact Jane Inch: 613-995-3681.



Susan Holtz

*Environmental Policy Consultant,
Ferguson's Cove, Nova Scotia*

Some might think it's a long way from Ferguson's Cove, N.S. to the National Round Table but for Susan Holtz, a specialist in energy, environment and sustainable development, it is not far at all. Ms. Holtz was part of the original Task Force on Environment and Economy that recommended the creation of the NRTEE. "Our goal was to form senior agency whose main purpose was the promotion of sustainable development — one that could help change the climate of opinion among senior leaders in all sectors and could reinforce existing grass-roots efforts," Ms. Holtz says.

A founding member of the Round Table, Ms. Holtz has written and spoken widely on such topics as economic incentives for pollution control; indicators for sustainable development; environmental reporting; practical issues in the environmental assessment of public policy; and international trade and the environment. As an adjunct professor, Ms. Holtz teaches several courses in the Environmental Planning Department of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design.

Vice-Chair of the NRTEE and a member of the Executive Committee, Ms. Holtz is also an active member of both the NRTEE Task Force on Sustainability Reporting and the Task Force on Foreign Policy and Sustainability.

Foreign Policy and Sustainability

The NRTEE's Task Force on Foreign Policy and Sustainability has organized its work to impact directly on policy development within the federal government. In 1993, the Task Force focused on the North American Free Trade Agreement's environmental "side deal". Specifically, it provided advice to the Prime Minister on the form and function of the new North American Commission on Environmental Cooperation and the international agreement that established it, the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation.



Pierre Marc Johnson

Director of Research, Faculty of Law and Graduate Law Program, McGill University

Dr. Pierre Marc Johnson, a lawyer and Doctor of Medicine, practices law with the firm of Guy and Gilbert in Montreal. In addition to his law practice, he teaches law at McGill University and directs environmental law and policy in the Graduate Law Program at McGill.

Dr. Johnson has a strong record internationally in environment and development issues. He has served on many advisory boards and panels, including acting as special advisor to the Secretary General of the Earth Summit. Currently he is special advisor to the President of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the upcoming UN Conference on Desertification. He is also a member of the board of the International Institute for Sustainable Development in Winnipeg.

A former Premier of Quebec, Dr. Johnson has written widely on international sustainable development and trade issues and is often invited to give talks on public policy issues by universities and organizations in Canada, the U.S. and Europe. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Appointed in 1989, Dr. Johnson is one of the founding members of the National Round Table. He is Vice-Chair, a member of the Executive Committee, and Chair of the Task Force on Foreign Policy and Sustainability.

The Task Force began its work in 1994 by examining the implications for sustainable development of the recently completed set of Uruguay Round Agreements of the GATT, and the prospective World Trade Organization (WTO). In order to develop its advice, the Task Force convened a workshop including all of the relevant stakeholders in Montreal on March 28, 1994 to identify areas of consensus and possible points of emphasis for the Canadian government at the GATT Ministerial meeting in Marrakech in April.

The Task Force has now turned its attention to the Summit of the Americas. The Summit was called by U.S. President Bill Clinton, who has invited all the democratically elected leaders of the Americas to gather in Miami in December, 1994, to discuss an agenda based on three core themes: market integration, democratization, and sustainable development.

The Task Force has initiated a series of workshops to ensure that the advice being prepared is informed by and secures support from the broad hemispheric community. The workshops are designed to share ideas and to learn from the perspectives of critical stakeholders from government, business, NGOs, and other communities in the hemisphere. Through this process the Task Force hopes to determine the most effective and acceptable means for Canada to promote the environment and sustainable development agenda at the Summit of the Americas.

After preliminary discussions with key stakeholders in Canada, the first workshop was held in July in Washington, D.C., in partnership with the National Audubon Society and the National Wildlife Federation. The workshop encompassed short presentations and lengthy discussions on: forests, biodiversity and conservation, toxics, energy and climate change, accession to NAFTA, institutional arrangements in the Hemisphere and capacity building. A report from the workshop, entitled *Advancing Sustainable Development at the Summit of the Americas, Volume 1* is available in English, French and Spanish from the NRTEE.

On October 12-13, 1994, the Task Force convened a second workshop in Mexico City to further develop its advice to the Prime Minister. This workshop focused on social issues and on sharing ideas and hearing from stakeholders from the broader Caribbean, Central American and South American communities.

Cont. on pg. 18

Reporting on Sustainable Development

It has been seven years since the Brundtland Commission published its watershed report and a full two years since the Earth Summit. Yet Canada cannot offer a definitive assessment of progress toward sustainable development. We know in general terms that while some elements of society are adjusting, many are not. The difficulty in assessing progress is that we do not yet have the information gathering and reporting systems that are needed. Nor do we have sustainable development indicators that integrate ecosystem health, human well-being, and the impact of humans on the ecosystem.

Over the past two years the Task Force has reviewed Canada's current ability to monitor and assess progress toward sustainable development. As part of that review it commissioned several research papers (available from the NRTEE) and organized a Colloquium on reporting in the fall of 1993. Following full review by Round Table members, the resulting report *Toward Reporting Progress on Sustainable Development in Canada* was forwarded to the Prime Minister last December.

The report to the Prime Minister recommends strengthening the federal government's role in facilitating more effective reporting on information. The report makes 10 recommendations, including a recommendation that the federal government entrench a commitment to sustainable development and to sustainable development reporting in the mandates of its departments, agencies and crown corporations. It also recommends establishing a capacity for annually assessing and reporting on progress toward sustainable development within the federal government. As a follow-up to this recommendation the NRTEE conducted a comparative analysis of options for

Foreign Policy cont. from pg. 17

The Task Force will present its advice to the NRTEE Plenary at the end of October, 1994, after which it will be sent to the Prime Minister.

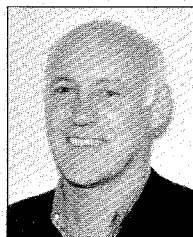
In conjunction with its work on the Summit of the Americas, the Task Force on Foreign Policy and Sustainability has also considered how sustainable development could serve as an integrating theme in Canadian foreign policy. *Sustainable Development as a Focus for Canadian Foreign Policy* is now available as Working Paper 25.

For more information contact Sarah Richardson: 613-943-0399.

establishing an Auditor or Commissioner of the Environment in Canada (working paper 21). This study, with the Report to the Prime Minister, formed the basis of the NRTEE's presentation to the Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development during their deliberations last spring.

This fall the Task Force will publish a book on reporting which synthesizes its report to the Prime Minister with the papers and discussions that arose from its Colloquium last fall. This winter the Task Force will host a second colloquium, focusing on how to assess human well-being within the context of sustainable development.

For more information contact Jane Inch: 613-995-3681.



Tony Hodge

Consulting Engineer, Victoria, British Columbia

Tony Hodge is clearly fascinated by change. When asked about joining the National

Round Table he said: "It was the chance to contribute to change that was the deciding factor for me. The entire focus of the NRTEE has been how it can best function as a change agent. Who could pass up that opportunity?"

Change has also motivated his work as the Chair of the NRTEE Task Force on Reporting on Sustainable Development which is examining mechanisms for measuring change in relation to sustainable development. This forms the basis of his interdisciplinary Ph.D. at McGill University. Based on this work, Mr. Hodge is presently advising the International Development Research Centre (Ottawa) and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (Geneva) on a reporting system field-test in Zimbabwe, India, Zambia, and Columbia.

A geological engineer by profession, Mr. Hodge's diverse background ranges from engineering projects in Canada, Belize, and Tanzania, to Treasurer and Environmental Advocate for the Yukon Conservation Society, to Past President, Friends of the Earth Canada. He joined the Round Table in 1992.

Education

Education is an important tool for achieving a sustainable future. Agenda 21, agreed to by all countries at the Earth Summit states: "Education is critical for promoting sustainable development and improving the capacity of the people to address environment and development issues ... Both formal and non-formal education are indispensable to changing people's attitudes so that they have the capacity to access and address their sustainable development concerns."

The Education Task Force of the National Round Table aims to fulfill these goals. The Task Force has been involved in a number of initiatives in both formal and non-formal education in the past few years. Two national initiatives are Learning for a Sustainable Future (LSF) and SustainABILITY.

Learning for a Sustainable Future, a project to create a sustainable development education program for Cana-

dian primary and secondary schools, was created by the National Round Table in 1991. LSF is managed by a Board of Directors which includes representatives from the Council of Ministers of Education, the Council of Ministers of the Environment, federal and provincial governments, industry, the Conference Board of Canada, NGOs and scientists. This group is working together to facilitate a Canada-wide program of formal sustainable development education. LSF is now ready to launch training workshops for educators, beginning with a pilot workshop in the Atlantic region this fall. LSF is also preparing a Cross-Curriculum Planning Guide in cooperation with provincial and territorial stakeholders.

SustainABILITY, developed in partnership with ParticipACTION, is a national social marketing program developed to facilitate changed attitudes, values and behaviour among the general public. SustainABILITY has just entered a six month development phase, with contributions from every province and territory in Canada, the federal government, the J.W. McConnell Foundation, the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union, and Nestle Canada.

SustainABILITY has assembled a technical advisory committee (TAC) of 36 prominent individuals from many sectors of society to oversee preparation of its program. During October, 1994, SustainABILITY held regional input sessions across the country to help develop an appropriate strategy.

The SustainABILITY project team will present its strategy to the federal government this fall to secure federal funding.

The Task Force has also initiated significant action in the academic community. The National Round Table and the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) hosted a workshop in March 1993 for sustainable development research institutes to discuss barriers to sustainable development and interdisciplinary research. The institutes unanimously agreed to launch themselves as the Canadian Centres for Sustainable Development Research (CCSDR) and have continued to meet, collaborate, promote sustainable development research and network amongst themselves since the initial workshop. Building on this success the Task Force hosted a workshop for sustainable development teaching programs at the post-secondary level in February of 1994. The teaching programs drafted a Statement of Common Principles

Elizabeth Crocker

Co-owner, P'lovers, Halifax



There is no doubt that Elizabeth Crocker is passionate about sustainable development. As co-owner of Nova Scotia's only environmental store and mail-order catalogue, and as founding board member of the Centre for Environmentally Sustainable Economic Development, she devotes much of her time to encouraging sustainable activities. She was pleased to join the National Round Table in May 1994 because, she says, "my philosophical belief and commitment to sustainable development has convinced me that issues of environment and economy have to be looked at broadly, interdependently, through a multi-stakeholder process."

Ms. Crocker has worked and written extensively in the areas of education, health care, economic development, the environment, and the role of women in business and politics. She is also President and co-owner of Woozles, a children's book and toy store. Ms. Crocker sits on the advisory board of the School of Resource and Environmental Studies at Dalhousie University. She is Chair of the NRTEE's Task Force on Education.

for Interdisciplinary Environment Education and are exploring further opportunities to cooperate.

The third and final phase of the Task Force's work with academic institutions will be a workshop for university presidents next spring to discuss and stimulate thinking around sustainable development within the larger framework of institutional change.

The Task Force has also been working with young people. To help Canadian youth prepare for the challenges of a sustainable future, the Task Force has initiated a "model round table for youth program," based on the *Model Round Table for Youth Kit*, a guide for facilitators and educators to sustainable development and the round table process (see article below).

In an effort to integrate sustainability aspects into day to day media coverage in Canada, the Task Force is organizing a workshop for national news editors and producers to be held in November, 1994. As background material for the workshop, the Task Force has commissioned a

report from Michael Keating examining the reporting on the cod crisis in Atlantic Canada. This report is available as Working Paper #24. Recognizing that money is tight in newsrooms across the country and that not all media will be able to travel to a workshop the Task Force is also organizing a series of professional development seminars for the media to be held across the country.

The Task Force has been participating in the development of a distribution plan for *Rescue Mission Planet Earth: A Children's Edition of Agenda 21*, along with the Canadian Teachers Federation, the Canadian Commission of UNESCO, the Centrale de l'enseignement du Quebec, the International Development Research Centre, Learning for a Sustainable Future, the Centre for Traditional Knowledge, SchoolNet Canada, the Toronto Board of Education, the Canadian Association of School Boards, and Unicef Canada.

For more information please contact Carla Doucet: 613-947-0668.

Model Round Tables Popular with Youth

Exciting and innovative may not be the first words that come to mind when discussing decision making processes. However, if the people making the decisions are youth and the process is a model round table simulation, the results are often imaginative and creative.

Over the past two years the National Round Table has conducted model round table simulations with over 2,000 high school students from across Canada. Young people have an important role to play in our society, particularly as we move toward a sustainable future. The model round table simulation process teaches youth skills in critical thinking. But more importantly, it helps them understand that sustainable development isn't always easy and that building consensus among diverse interests takes time and effort.

Pam Grunow, a student who participated in the Youth Round Table simulation held in Hamilton, Ontario last spring said: "I now have a better understanding of how many different people from all different occupations are working together for one common cause." When the Region of Hamilton-Wentworth announced that they would be feeding the ideas from the youth round table into its Vision 2020 strategy, Ms. Grunow said: "I felt like we had really accomplished something. It really felt good knowing that our voices were heard."

The idea for youth round tables was first proposed by Jeff Gibbs, co-founder of the Environmental Youth Alliance. His idea was put into practice with the development



Students at Forum for Young Canadians practice making decisions by consensus.

of the Round Table's *Model Round Table for Youth Kit*, published in 1993. A guide for educators and facilitators, the *Youth Kit* introduces the concepts of sustainable development and round tables to youth. Over 3,500 copies of the kit have been distributed so far.

The *Youth Kit* is designed to help young people grasp the concept of sustainable development by examining issues that affect their own lives — from political, economic, environmental and social perspectives. And the *Youth Kit* aims to help students appreciate the value of solutions reached through consensus.

The kit provides a framework to develop skills in research, critical thinking, organizing and presenting information, debating and negotiating, problem solving and decision making. It encourages an active interest in local and global issues leading to resolution of the issues.



National Round Table Readers' Survey

The National Round Table Review is a free newsletter, published quarterly, and distributed to over 10,000 individuals and organizations in Canada and abroad.

In an effort to improve the National Round Table Review and other publications regularly produced by the NRTEE, we would like your participation in our first readership survey.

Please take a few minutes of your time and share with us your opinions, comments, concerns and ideas by filling out the brief questionnaire below.

When you are finished, simply remove the survey, tape it shut and return it postage paid to the Angus Reid Group, a national research firm whom we have asked to enter the survey results and help us analyze the findings.

In addition to this readership survey, we are currently updating our mailing list to ensure that we have the best list possible and eliminate any unnecessary waste created by incorrect addresses. Before you start the survey please take a moment to give us your complete mailing information or if the current information on the mailing label is correct please check the appropriate box.

Current Information Correct: ☐

Name

Title/Position

Department

Organization

Address

City Province

Postal Code Country

Telephone Fax

E-mail

Pull out and complete.

READERS' SURVEY

Thank you for participating!

A. Reader Characteristics

1. Which category best describes your current employer/occupation?

- ☐ Federal government
- ☐ Provincial government
- ☐ Municipal government
- ☐ Small business (under 10 employees)
- ☐ Medium business (10 - 99 employees)
- ☐ Large business (100+ employees)
- ☐ Academic
- ☐ Environmentalist
- ☐ Association
- ☐ Labour
- ☐ Media
- ☐ Librarian/Resource Centre
- ☐ Research /Public Policy Institute
- ☐ Non-profit organization
- ☐ Self-employed/Consultant
- ☐ Individual
- ☐ Other

2. How do you usually receive the NRT Review?

- ☐ Mailed to my home
- ☐ Passed on to me by colleague
- ☐ Mailed to my place of work
- ☐ Pick-up at library/resource centre
- ☐ Other

3. What percentage of the National Round Table Review do you read?

_____ %

4. How often do you go back to past issues of the Review for information?

- ☐ Never
- ☐ Occasionally
- ☐ Regularly
- ☐ All the time

B. Reader Assessment of National Round Table Review

5. On average, how many people within your organization read the Review?

_____ people

6. How often do you read each of the following components of the Review?

	Never	Occasionally	Regularly	All the time
Editorial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commentary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Features	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Further Reading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Success Stories	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Round Table	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Round-Up	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NRTEE Work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
in Progress	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. There are a number of ways people use the information in Review. Which of the following apply to your organization? (Please ☒ boxes that apply).

- ☐ Reading material
- ☐ Information source for articles
- ☐ To get information about the Round Table
- ☐ Other

8. How interested are you in each of the following sustainable development issues:

ISSUE	Very Interested	Somewhat Interested	Not at all interested
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biodiversity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate Change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consensus Decision Making	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consumption	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eco-Efficiency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic Instruments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Industries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fisheries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foreign Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forestry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Full Cost Accounting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustainable Communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Toxic Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trade	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other			
Other			
Other			

C. Overall Assessment

9. Overall, how would you rate this edition (Fall 1994) of the National Round Table Review?

Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. How would you rate the NRTEE Work in Progress section of this edition (Fall 1994) of the Review?

Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. Overall, how would you rate the Review in terms of each of the following:

Attribute	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Readability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Appearance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Content	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Too Long	Too Short	Just Right	
Length of Review	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Length of Articles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Comments.....				

D. Suggestions for Improvement

12. What would you change in the Review?

	More	Less	No change
Features:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If more, what issues?

Success Stories:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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If more, what issues?

Round Table Programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Further Reading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Graphics/charts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Photos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Add letters to the Editor/Reader Feedback section

☐ Add a Calendar of Events section

Other.....

13. If you were the Editor of the Review, what top three issues would you focus on?

1.....
2.....
3.....

14. Are there other changes you would make?

.....
.....
.....
.....

E. Other NRT Publications

15. Have you received or ordered any of the following?

☐ Sustainable Development Book Series
☐ Working Paper Series
☐ Other NRTEE Reports and Products: Specify

If yes, please answer the associated questions.

16. How would you rate the Sustainable Development Book series?

Attribute	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Readability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Usefulness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Content	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments				

17. How would you rate the Working Paper Series?

Attribute	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Readability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Usefulness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Content	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments.....				

18. How would you rate other NRTEE Reports or Products?

Attribute	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Readability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Usefulness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Content	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments.....				

19. Are there other topics that you would like to see covered in NRTEE publications?

1.
2.
3.

20. Are you interested in receiving information from the National Round Table in the following formats?(please

✓ boxes that apply)

- ☐ Videos
- ☐ Multi-media formats
- ☐ Executive summaries
- ☐ Other

21. Are you interested in receiving information from the Round Table in an electronic format via WEB or Internet?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

22. Would you pay a nominal fee per publication to cover the costs of shipping and handling? (The Review would still be distributed free of charge).

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

23. Would a nominal mailing charge make you less likely to order NRTEE publications?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Other Comments:

.....
.....
.....

Once again thank you for participating!

Please fold along this line and tape shut.

Project Number: 2-1436-02
NRTEE Readers' Survey



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The *Youth Kit* also provides sample activities, case studies and a complete model round table simulation with step by step instructions and guidelines to the round table process. The simulations require the students to assume stakeholder roles and to practice consensus decision making around a specific topic, such as the pulp and paper industry — something that is very topical in Canada right now.

For the past two summers the Round Table has led simulation exercises with students from the Forum for Young Canadians when they visit Ottawa. Clare Baxter, Executive Director of the Forum, says: "This unique experience is something that the students will long remember and we are certain they will bring these ideas home and share them with members of their community."

Liana Krauthaker, a senior sociology teacher at Holy Trinity High School in Kanata, Ontario, has embraced the concept of round tables for experiential learning. "The thing that I like the most about the round table process is that it allows a student or individual to take on the role of someone else. The round table process requires that we be informed about other perspectives and ideas. It also creates an environment of meaningful dialogue in the class when students are taking on an integrative community issue. The students challenge themselves to be active listeners and work collaboratively toward consensus building."

The *Model Round Table for Youth Kit* is catching on internationally as well. John Pillai, Project Coordinator for National Environmental Education in Malaysia, says: "I find the round table youth kit to be very useful in my work. It is important that we prepare our young generation to fully appreciate the environment by doing something useful." The model round table process has also been picked up in Russia. This fall the Round Table will conduct a round table simulation exercise with Russian students who are visiting Canada to learn about democracy.

If you are interested in a copy of the *Model Youth Kit*, or having the National Round Table conduct a simulation exercise with your school or group, please contact Carla Doucet, Education Policy Advisor at the NRTEE: 613-947-0668.

Leone Pippard was a tireless advocate on behalf of the environment, long before she joined the Round Table, and the fact that her term as a member ended this year will not change her enthusiasm and advocacy for sustainable development. She continues to lead SustainABILITY, a national social marketing program on sustainable development to which she has devoted her time and considerable energy over the past four years. As the principal architect of the program, Ms. Pippard was responsible for raising over \$300,000 in development funding in partnership with ParticipACTION.

A founding member of the National Round Table, Ms. Pippard has left a legacy through the projects that she helped to bring to fruition as Co-Chair of the Standing Committee on Education and Communications and as Chair of its successor, the Task Force on Education. In addition to establishing SustainABILITY, during her term Ms. Pippard provided leadership and direction for initiatives with the media, municipalities and young people.

In her present capacity as President and Executive Director of Canadian Ecology Advocates, Ms. Pippard will remain active in fostering sustainability through responsible citizenship.

Josefina Gonzalez a founding member of the NRTEE, was committed to encouraging greater understanding of sustainable development in Canada.

A research scientist with Forintek Canada, Ms. Gonzalez worked with the NRTEE Education Task Force to establish the only sustainable development awards for young people awarded annually at the Canada-Wide Science Fair (CWSF). Ms. Gonzalez helped develop a three day sustainable development training module to be used in the Shad Valley Program, run by the Canadian Centre for Creative Technology.

Recognizing that health is an integral component of sustainable development, Ms. Gonzalez led a program to survey national professional health associations for the Task Force on Education.

Ms. Gonzalez left the Round Table in 1994, but will continue to encourage sustainable development among youth and other key sectors through her work at Forintek.



Lise Bacon

Senator, Government of Canada

The Honorable Lise Bacon has had a long and outstanding career on the Quebec political scene. She was elected a member of Parliament for the first time in 1973 and was the first woman to be appointed president of the Liberal Party of Quebec. Throughout her political career, M^{me} Bacon has held several cabinet appointments, namely as Minister of State for Social Affairs, Minister of Consumer, Cooperative Affairs and Financial Institutions, Minister of Immigration, Minister of Cultural Affairs, Minister of the Environment, Minister of Energy and Resources, and Minister in Charge of Regional Development.

M^{me} Bacon was the first woman to be appointed Deputy Premier of Quebec, a function that she held from 1985 until her retirement from active political life in January, 1994.

M^{me} Bacon's retirement was shortlived; she was recently appointed to the Senate of Canada. She joined the Round Table in May, 1994.

Patrick Carson

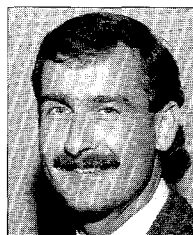
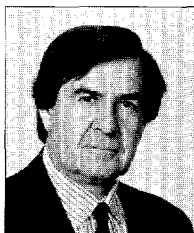
Vice-President, Environmental Affairs, Loblaw Companies Ltd.

Patrick Carson is Vice-President, Environmental Affairs at Loblaw Companies Ltd. He is regarded as a leading expert in business and the environment and has been influential in guiding Canadian business toward a leadership role in developing sound environmental policies. Mr. Carson speaks to a wide variety of audiences on business and the environment.

He represented Canadian business at the Earth Summit in Brazil in June 1992 and is the co-author of *Green is Gold: Business Talking to Business about the Environmental Revolution*.

"My belief is that business can no longer divide its balance sheet from the bottom line," Mr. Carson says. "I am convinced that if business made money destroying the planet, business can make money putting it back together."

Mr. Carson was appointed to the National Round Table in May, 1994.



Allan Bruce

Administrator, Operating Engineers (Local 115) Joint Apprenticeship and Training Plan

Allan Bruce is the Administrator of the Operating Engineers (local 115) Joint Apprenticeship and Training Plan as well as Recording Corresponding Secretary of the Executive Board of Local 115 of the International Union of Operating Engineers. A member of Local 115 since 1976, Mr. Bruce has wide experience at various levels of the Canadian labour movement, particularly in the area of training and development.

Based in Burnaby, B.C., Mr. Bruce was appointed to the National Round Table in May, 1994. The Round Table "allows me to participate constructively in a very positive atmosphere," he says. "As a labour representative I am particularly pleased to be at the table, not only to learn from other members and interact with other sectors, but to help dispel some of the myths about labour."

Geraldine Kenney-Wallace

President and Vice Chancellor, McMaster University



Dr. Kenney-Wallace is President and Vice-Chancellor of McMaster University, and a Professor of Physics and Chemistry. In a research career spanning 30 years she has held faculty positions at Yale and the University of Toronto, is a noted international authority on lasers and optoelectronics and the author of over 100 research publications.

Dr. Kenney-Wallace is a former Chair of the Science Council of Canada and has been a member of many advisory boards and panels. She is currently a member of Canada-Japan Forum 2000, the International Advisory Panel to the National Science and Technology Board of Singapore and a Director of the Conference Board of Canada.

Appointed in 1989, Dr. Kenney-Wallace was a founding member of the National Round Table and serves on its Executive Committee. "The twinning of environment and economy initiatives gives the Round Table a unique opportunity to investigate the facts, analyze and review issues, and offer advice on this most important new set of opportunities," she says. "It has been a huge learning lesson to see issues through other people's eyes and yet at the same time, bring the rigour and expertise of our own particular background to those issues."

Janine Ferretti

*Executive Director,
Pollution Probe Foundation*



Janine Ferretti is Executive Director of the Pollution Probe Foundation, a national, non-profit, research-based advocacy group dedicated to protecting the environment.

Ms. Ferretti has considerable international and national experience in the environmental field. She was a member of the Canadian Delegation to the Earth Summit in June 1992. She is currently Vice-Chair of the Ontario Round Table on Environment and Economy.

Ms. Ferretti is also a member of the International Trade Advisory Committee and Task Force on Trade and the Environment, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada.

Ms. Ferretti was appointed to the National Round Table in May, 1994 and is participating in the work of the Task Force on Foreign Policy and Sustainability.



Sam Hamad

*Vice-President,
Roche R&D Ltée.*

Sam Hamad's eyes light up when he talks about being a member of the National Round Table. "I believe in the quality of life that we have in Canada and I welcome the opportunity to work towards making that life sustainable. The Round Table brings together knowledge from various sectors of Canada and that is important: stakeholders working together for change."

A civil engineer by profession, Mr. Hamad has considerable experience in project management, technology diffusion and environmental evaluation. He is also responsible for teaching at Université Laval and the National Scientific Research Institute (INRS-EAU), in the following areas: management of engineering contracts, project planning and control, management principles and environmental regulation and legislation.

Mr. Hamad is also Vice President of the Order of Engineers of Quebec and it was recently announced that he will receive the Meritorious Service Award of the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers. This annual award is given to an engineer who has made a significant contribution to Canadian life. Mr. Hamad joined the Round Table in May, 1994.

Cindy Kenny-Gilday

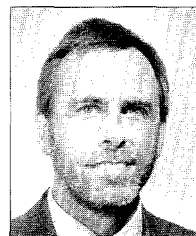
*Special Advisor, North West
Territories Department of
Renewable Resources*



Cindy Kenny-Gilday, born and raised in Deline, Northwest Territories (NWT), a traditional Slavey village, did not hear a word of English until she was nine years old. Her early experience in Deline led her to a lifelong commitment to such vital Aboriginal concerns as harvesting rights, language survival, sustainable development and environmental issues. After a lifetime working with aboriginal organizations, she is now a special advisor to the NWT Department of Renewable Resources.

She was the first Indigenous person to serve as Councillor in the IUCN World Conservation Union and established its first Task Force for Indigenous Peoples. In 1993 Ms. Kenny-Gilday moderated the United Nations Conference on Traditional Knowledge and Environment. She also serves as a Board Member with the World Wildlife Fund Canada and the Canadian Native Arts Foundation.

With characteristic enthusiasm, she is looking forward to her term on the National Round Table. "We will be held accountable by future generations, so it is important that we work together now, so that when asked, we can confidently say that we did everything possible for a sustainable future."



Martin Eakins

*Partner,
KPMG Peat Marwick Thorne*

"Sustainable development for business is the essence of our future", says Marty Eakins. As

the Partner in Charge, Financial Advisory Services, with KPMG Peat Marwick Thorne in Hamilton, Ontario, he is well-placed to gauge the importance of sustainable development for the business community. He is also Senior Vice-President of both KPMG Environmental Services Inc. and Peat Marwick Thorne Inc., Trustee in Bankruptcy.

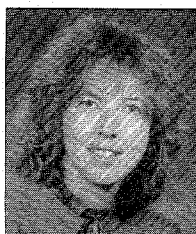
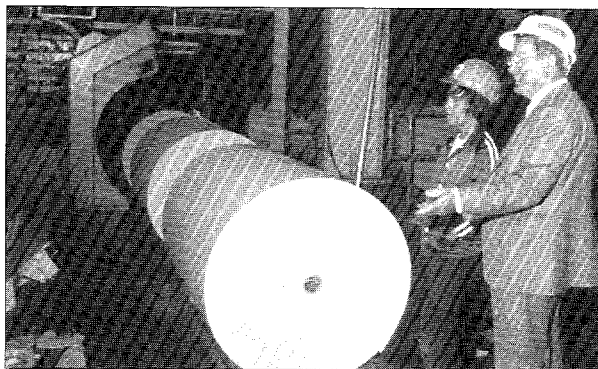
Mr. Eakins was appointed to the Round Table in May, 1994. "At the end of my tenure as a Round Table member," Mr. Eakins says, "I hope that all the people that I will have had contact with will have a better appreciation and understanding of sustainable development as a concept and how it relates to business."

Pulp and Paper Round Table

Following the success of the Forest Round Table, which published its final report earlier this year, the NRTEE decided to facilitate a similar dialogue for the pulp and paper sector. The pulp and paper industry stretches right across Canada, employing 7% of the Canadian workforce, supporting 350 communities, half of which have populations of less than 10,000. Together pulp and paper mills account for \$23 billion in exports, and represent 26% of the world's newsprint capacity.

However, Canada's pulp and paper industry is going through a tough time. Its competitive advantage has eroded; productivity improvements have not kept up with those in some of the other key manufacturing countries; and our global share of newsprint production has dropped. At the same time, even though Canadian mills

have greatly reduced emissions and discharges during the past 30 years, by and large they still lag behind their main competitors.



Elizabeth May

*Executive Director,
Sierra Club of Canada*

To her fellow members of the Forest Round Table, Elizabeth May is known for her strong support of the round table process and environmental activism. So when asked why she joined the NRTEE it was not surprising that she said: "Through my work on the Forest Round Table I have come to realize that the round table process is a viable alternative to adversarial decision making processes. As well, my acceptance demonstrates my optimism for its effectiveness in influencing government policy." She says that her goal as a Round Table member is "radicalizing the entire federal government."

Activism is not new to Ms. May. She was active in Cape Breton opposing the chemical spraying of forests and has a long history of volunteer activism in issues ranging from forest pesticides to energy and uranium mining. Ms. May has written widely on environmental issues, including two books, most recently *Paradise Won* (published by McLelland Stewart). She frequently lectures across Canada and also maintains a busy schedule of conference key note addresses.

Consequently, the economic equation is unforgiving: dramatic increases in environmental spending will leave little capital for improving quality or productivity. And without improving quality and productivity, competitiveness will decline and will limit the economic ability to make environmental improvements.

Concerned with this equation, the National Round Table, in conjunction with the Institute for Research on Public Policy, undertook a study to test the thesis of Harvard economist Michael Porter that strict environmental regulation would enhance competitiveness by triggering innovation and upgrading (Working Paper #5). The study found the thesis inappropriate to the pulp and paper industry, mainly because the regulatory system in Canada is so haphazard and ill-focused.

The National Round Table then approached stakeholders in the pulp and paper manufacturing sector to see if there was support for establishing a round table that would search for new approaches to resolving the dilemma. And there was.

In February 1993, more than 20 stakeholders representing a wide variety of interest groups, met and decided to work for consensus in four major areas: sourcing of fibre; manufacturing processes; marketing and consumption; and jurisdictional issues. After five meetings, several mill tours and much heated debate, the Pulp and Paper Round Table has drafted a set of principles to guide the sustainable production of paper and paper products, tackling such issues as closed loop

technologies, employing the precautionary principle, the three Rs and codes of practice.

These principles must now be finalized and endorsed by member organizations. As well, action plans are being sought from all stakeholders to make sure that the principles are implemented.

The Pulp and Paper Round Table will hold its final meeting in Aylmer, Quebec, on October 26, 1994. Its work will culminate with the publication of a final report summarizing its accomplishments. It is hoped that the principles agreed to within the Round Table will have wide applicability in the pulp and paper sector and will contribute to ensuring the survival of a sustainable pulp and paper industry in Canada.

For more information contact Steve Thompson: 613-995-7519.



THANK YOU

John Houghton's term on the National Round Table ended in 1994, but as Chairman of QUNO Corp. he continues to donate his time and effort in bringing the work of Canada's Pulp and Paper Round Table to consensus on sustainable development.

This will bring three years of hard work to a successful conclusion — work which began in 1991 with the formation of a Forest Round Table. The Forest Round Table issued its final report in April, 1994.

Mr. Houghton reflected recently: "I don't think I have lived through a time of greater change in the forest and forest products industry than that we have seen in the last few years. We asked stakeholders to see if they could forge a common view on the future of Canada's forests. No-one was optimistic, but they gave it a try — and 18 months later they had hammered out a unanimous set of principles, signed by all their parent organizations."

Mr. Houghton has been active in carrying the Round Table's message to members of the industry and to several advisory groups in the industry.

His pioneering work in encouraging consensus in Canada's forest sector has provided a model which will undoubtedly be used by many other sectors in their search for agreement on sustainable development.

Pulp and Paper Round Table Members

David Barron, CPPA

Harry Bombay, National Aboriginal Forestry Association

Anne Camozzi, Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication

Hugh Cook, Environment Canada

Claire Dansereau, Consultant

Rocco Delvecchio, Industry Canada

André Duchesne, Association des Industries Forestières du Québec

David Hamilton, Federation of Canadian Municipalities

John Hanson, Recycling Council of Ontario

Peter Toft, Health Canada

Ann Hillyer, West Coast Environmental Law Association

John Houghton, QUNO Corp.

Doug Hyde, Consultant

Keith Jackson, Canadian Printing Industries Association

David Johnston, Stora Forest Industries

Christine Lucyk, Canadian Daily Newspapers Association

Susan Masswohl, Canadian Wildlife Federation

Elizabeth May, Sierra Club of Canada

Paul Muldoon, Pollution Probe

John Mullinder, Paper and Paperboard Packaging Environmental Council

Atul Nanda, Association of Municipal Recycling Coordinators

Prem Nanda, Consumers Association of Canada

Keith Newman, Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada

Gordon Perks, Better Transportation Coalition

David Schindler, University of Alberta

Wayne B. Wolfe, Irving Forest Services

Peter Wrist, Pulp and Paper Research Institute of Canada

Forest Round Table

Forestry is the biggest industry in Canada, but it is also the largest battlefield. Particularly since the 1950s people have fought over forest practices. Adversarial attitudes have been ingrained; confrontation substituted for discourse; and defensiveness left little room for negotiation.

The NRTEE consulted with all the main national stakeholders during 1990 to engage their commitment to join in a dialogue with others on the sustainable development of Canada's forest sector. The NRTEE opened its first Forest Round Table meeting in June 1991 with 25 stakeholders in attendance, representing groups as diverse as the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, National Aboriginal Forestry Association, the Sierra Club, and the Miramichi Pulp and Paper Company.

Nine meetings and several field trips later the feeling in the room was one of trust, mutual respect and pride. The group had developed an esprit de corps and 26 principles for sustainable development. By late Spring 1993, all parent organizations had signed their approval to the principles representing a significant achievement for sustainable forestry in Canada. A progress report and video detailing the process were completed at this same time to inform others of the progress made in this sector.

Stakeholder organizations were then asked to develop action plans to implement the principles. Over half of the participants completed this task. These action plans have been incorporated in the *Forest Round Table on Sustainable Forestry: Final Report*, released in April, 1994. The *Final Report* included the principles, notes on the process and lessons learned from the dialogue.

The June 1994 report of the Standing Committee on Natural Resources wholeheartedly endorsed the work of the Forest Round Table stating: "The Committee believes the Forest Round Table set of principles to be totally appropriate and would urge federal, provincial and territorial governments to endorse them."

The final task of the group was to tackle the controversial and topical issue of harvesting methods. Although members were not able to come to a consensus, arguing that harvesting was site-specific, a synthesis of their points of view has been published as a working paper in the NRTEE series, *Harvesting Methods In Canada's Forests: A Discussion Paper from The National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy*. The views contained in this working paper represent leading-edge thinking on the topic.



Although the work of the Forest Round Table has come to an official close, its work is carrying on through its members and continues to evolve.

For more information contact: Steve Thompson at (613) 995-7519.

Forest Round Table members

John E. Houghton, QUINO Corp.
Yves Hardy, Canadian Forestry Service
Chris Lee, Canadian Federation of Professional Foresters Associations
David Neave, Wildlife Habitat Canada
Bruce Gourlay, Industry Canada
Gerry Lee, Canadian Wildlife Service
Marie Rauter, Ontario Forest Industries Association
Peter Chapman, Canadian Friends Service Committee
Lois Corbett, Consultant
Kim Pollock, I.W.A. Canada
Glen Blouin, Canadian Forestry Association
Peter DeMarsh, Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners
Keith Newman, Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada
Brian Gilfillan, Council of Forest Industries of BC
Julie Gelfand, Canadian Nature Federation
Diana Keith, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
Susan Masswohl, Canadian Wildlife Federation
Dr. Rod Carrow, University of Toronto
Dirk Brinkman, Canadian Silviculture Association
Harry M. Bombay, National Aboriginal Forestry Association
David Barron, Canadian Pulp and Paper Association
Elizabeth May, Sierra Club of Canada and NRTEE
Don Laishley, Weldwood of Canada Ltd.
Joe O'Neill, Miramichi Pulp and Paper Inc.
Hamish Kimmins, University of British Columbia
Gerry Wilde, Fur Institute of Canada
Cathy Driscoll, St. Mary's University
Gary Blundell, World Wildlife Fund

Rural Renewal

The Task Force on Rural Renewal was established to examine the impact of agricultural programs and policy support systems on biodiversity and rural communities. One of its first initiatives was to commission a discussion paper on the topic, titled *Canada's Agricultural and Trade Policies: Implications for Rural Renewal and Biodiversity*. This exploratory study formed the basis of further workshops and consultations.

The many issues related to rural renewal present one of the key challenges of sustainable development in Canada. The economy of rural Canada has been in crisis for nearly 20 years while the environmental components of income support programs have been largely ignored. Natural biodiversity and unique ecosystems face more imminent threats in working agricultural areas than elsewhere in Canada. Farm profitability has substantially declined relative to other industries causing many rural communities to deteriorate steadily.



Diane Griffin

*Executive Director,
P.E.I. Nature Trust*

Diane Griffin has been a strong advocate for the environment as Executive Director of the Prince Edward Island Nature Trust and as Chair of the NRTEE Rural Renewal Task Force. Through the Task Force she has worked to develop sustainable community initiatives for rural Canada. The Round Table has provided the opportunity "to work with a broad range of interests in making progress toward sustainable development," Ms. Griffin says. "The Round Table has played a dynamic demonstration role in establishing a process for bringing together people from diverse backgrounds."

Ms. Griffin has also served on the Canadian Committee for the UNESCO Programme on Man and the Biosphere, the Canadian Environmental Advisory Council, the Canadian Wildlife Federation, Wildlife Habitat Canada and various other boards and committees. For two years she served as president of the Canadian Nature Federation and is a current member of the P.E.I. Round Table on the Environment and the Economy.

The NRTEE is examining opportunities and barriers to economic and ecological renewal in rural Canada. The intention is to assemble information from which recommendations for further action can be developed. The NRTEE is interested in linking sustainable agriculture, sustainable communities, landscape ecology and biodiversity into a gradual revitalization of rural Canada. The examination was precipitated by the growing urgency for alternative economic development in rural areas, a strong sense of resource and landscape stewardship among producers pending international trade agreements, and an accelerating concern for the competitiveness of the agri-food sector.

In November and December of 1993 the Task Force convened two workshops and invited the advice of interested stakeholder groups to determine the scope of the challenge facing rural Canada, and provide possible processes to address the challenge and specific recommendations to implement the process. Based on that advice, the Task Force is currently involved in several different initiatives, in partnership with other groups:

1. Bringing program delivery agencies and national stakeholder organizations into closer cooperation with each other to determine how they might work together, so that community access to programs is made easier.

The NRTEE is working with members of Canada's Inter-departmental Committee on Rural and Remote Canada in their efforts to engage discussion by staging a series of regional fora in 1994/5, followed by a national conference in 1995. The Round Table is encouraging a broad mix of stakeholder groups at the planning meetings.

2. Convening rural representatives of the three pillars of sustainable development — social, economic and environmental — to facilitate discussions and understanding of sustainable rural development.

Work is presently underway with the Nova Scotia Centre for Environmentally Sustainable Economic Development (CESD), the Canadian Cattlemen's Association, the Nova Scotia College of Agriculture, and a sustainable communities expert in British Columbia to develop a "module" on sustainable development that would be used for regional workshops.

3. Developing a joint set of criteria/principles for farm support programs which would fulfill environmental, as well as social and economic, goals.

The NRTEE is working with Ducks Unlimited as the lead initiative in this activity.

4. Helping to build specific "tools" for rural communities, in response to a request for the development of a "tool box" of practical aids:

- An Internet-type computer network to link rural institutions, groups, and individuals into discussion via their home computers.

Excellent progress has been made in this area through discussions held and contacts made at an international conference on electronic highways in Nebraska and a national conference on sustainable communities held at St. Andrew's, N.B. The Nova Scotia Centre for Environmentally Sustainable Economic Development (CESED), Friends of the Earth and the Agricultural Institute of Canada have all expressed interest in contributing to this project. Agriculture Canada may act as an information provider and maintainer of the network, once in place.

- Adapting the Ontario Farm Environment Coalition's handbook for use in other regions.

The NRTEE is working as the lead agency on this.

- Developing workshop/training modules for banking and loan staff across the country to integrate social and environmental aspects of rural renewal into lending criteria.

The North American Wetlands Conservation Council has partnered with the Canadian Bankers Association, the NRTEE, and other loan and insurance agencies to implement this. One session has already been given in Ottawa. Another session led by the Royal Bank of Canada and drawing a wide range of financial personnel is scheduled for Spring 1994.

- Producing a "How-to" guide of ideas and opportunities for communities.

The NRTEE is working with Heritage Canada and Mount Allison University to help facilitate the printing and distribution of community tool kits to as wide an audience as possible.

For more information contact Steve Thompson: 613-995-7519.

Roy Aitken Internship Program

Each summer the Roy Aitken Sustainable Development Internship Program provides two students who are interested in sustainable development with the opportunity to work for the National Round Table. The program, sponsored by the International Nickel Company (INCO) and the National Round Table, honours Roy Aitken, a Canadian leader in sustainable development who passed away in 1992.

The two students for the summer of 1994 were Amy Ma, an economics student from the University of Toronto, and Greg Yetman, a geography student from St. Mary's University, Nova Scotia. Amy spent the summer working on the LEAD Canada program (see page 33) and Greg researched environmental industries.





Jack MacLeod

Corporate Director, Calgary, Alberta

While wearing at least two of his many hats, Jack MacLeod has made an outstanding contribution to sustainable development in Canada. First, as a founding member of the National Round Table, he was responsible for the creation of Learning for a Sustainable Future, a national sustainable development education program that he now chairs. Secondly, as the former President and CEO of Shell Canada, he helped the company develop a sustainable development plan. Now Shell is the only company in Canada that produces an annual sustainable development report.

"My involvement in environmental management at Shell led to a desire to contribute to a better understanding of sustainable development among various sectors of the Canadian economy and my involvement with the National Round Table contributed to my efforts at Shell. The two were mutually reinforcing," says Mr. MacLeod.

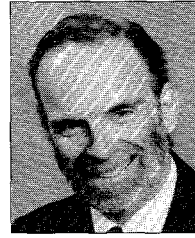
Mr. MacLeod is a director of NOVA Corporation, Trimac Limited, Bovar Inc., Wascana Energy Inc., SunLife Assurance Company, the C.D. Howe Institute, the Van Horne Institute, and Chair of the Foothills Hospital Foundation. He is also a Senior Fellow of the International Institute for Sustainable Development and Chair of the advisory board of the Environmental Choice Program.

Karen Morgan

President, Woodnorth Holdings

Karen Morgan has only been a member of the National Round Table for four months and she is already working towards an overhaul of environmentally sensitive taxes. "It is nice to be able to make a difference and to participate in a process that can provide support and advice to the government," she says. "I am very excited about being able to contribute at that level."

Ms. Morgan has developed a solid record of community involvement in British Columbia and is currently involved with the Boundary Bay Airport Commission (Delta) and the Delta Advisory Planning Commission. Ms. Morgan is the director of the Delta Chamber of Commerce and since 1990 has been President of Woodnorth Holdings, an investment company with holdings in several industries.



Harvey Mead

President, Quebec Union for the Conservation of Nature

Dr. Harvey Mead has seen sustainable development issues from both the government and non-government perspectives — first as founding President of the Quebec Union for the Conservation of Nature (UQCN), and as Assistant Deputy Minister with the Quebec Department of the Environment. He returned to UQCN as President in 1993. His impressive history also includes having served as a member of the Quebec Round Table on the Environment and the Economy, teaching interdisciplinary college courses, and work with environmental groups in Honduras on tropical rainforests.

Dr. Mead joined the Round Table in May 1994. "The chance for environmental groups to sit down with CEOs is rare," he says. "The Round Table process improves the possibilities for solutions to complex problems. As a former member of the Quebec Round Table I am aware that solutions take time but I am looking forward to a productive term."

Robert Page

Dean, Faculty of Environmental Design, The University of Calgary



Dr. Bob Page joined the National Round Table two years ago and has been an active member of the Task Force on Foreign Policy and Sustainability. He feels that the Task Force has had much success with its work. Dr. Page thinks the Round Table has an important role to play in advancing sustainable development in Canada. "Progress is still too slow," he says. "Society has not yet fully grasped the concept of sustainable development."

In his other life, Dr. Page is a Professor and Dean with the Faculty of Environmental Design at The University of Calgary. Prior to this, he taught at Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario. Dr. Page is a former Chairman of the Canadian Environmental Advisory Council, a member of the International Trade Advisory Committee to the Federal Minister of International Trade, a member of the Task Force on Future Environmental Directions for the Government of Alberta, a member of the Board of Canadian Universities Consortium, Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand, and Chair, Banff Bow Valley Study dealing with impacts on mountain national parks.

Consensus Decision Making

Sustainable development recognizes that environmental, economic, and social needs are complex and require integrated decision making. More than ever, we understand how decisions made today affect the quality of life for future generations. However, conventional decision-making mechanisms tend to exclude rather than include diverse interests and do not cope well with the complexity that issues of sustainability present.

Just as sustainable development has emerged as a new way of thinking about the relationship between human activity and the environment, the consensus decision-making process represents a new approach to resolving conflicts between competing goals. It brings together all stakeholders in an issue or conflict — and provides a setting and framework for them to work toward a resolution based on consensus rather than on political or economic power.



Barry Stuart

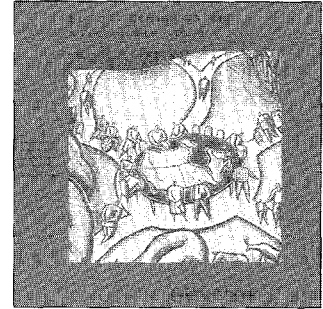
Judge, Territorial Court of the Yukon

When Barry Stuart was asked to serve on the National Round Table he had already

lived two or three lives — as a law professor who initiated one of the first environmental law courses in Canada; as an advisor in Papua New Guinea where, for three years, he helped map out the institutional structures for independence; as a founder of the Canadian Environmental Law Association; as a judge of the Territorial Court of the Yukon; and as the Chief Land Claims negotiator in the Yukon.

He was appointed to the National Round Table in 1989 and currently co-chairs its Task Force on Consensus Decision Making. Judge Stuart says at first he thought the Round Table would be a mere debating society, but his opinion changed with his first meeting. "I was simply overwhelmed by the concern of everyone to get beyond the gridlock of 'I'm right and you're wrong.'" The Round Table offers that chance to interact in an integrative way, he says, "and the process of consensus decision making has come a long way in a short period of time."

The word consensus means general agreement. And the consensus decision-making process is one in which all of those who have a stake in the outcome aim to reach agreement on actions that resolve or advance issues related to environmental, social and economic sustainability. When used in appropriate situations, consensus processes generate creative and lasting solutions. One of the fundamental principles of the National Round Table is that it makes all its decisions by consensus.



The National Round Table created a Task Force on Consensus Decision Making (CDM) to promote sustainable development through the use of CDM in Canada and to encourage the use of CDM in addressing disputes at all levels.

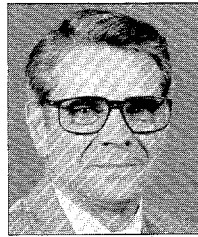
Early in 1992, the Task Force on Consensus Decision Making, comprised of members from several round tables across Canada along with key experts, held a series of scoping meetings. The advice flowing from these scoping sessions was to develop a guidebook to help others in the use of consensus decision-making process.

The Task Force developed the guidebook in a consensus-based partnership with all provincial round tables. This document was finalized in 1993 and was signed by all provinces either through provincial round tables or representatives of the government, as well as by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME), the Canadian Standards Association, and the Niagara Institute. This agreement represented a notable achievement itself. *Building Consensus For A Sustainable Future: Guiding Principles* was released in October, 1993, and with a distribution of more than 20,000 copies already, has been recognized as a significant contribution to the field of consensus decision making.

The Task Force is currently working on a companion volume of case studies to accompany the guiding principles and it is expected to be released in the fall. Additionally, the Task Force is developing a speaker's kit for consensus decision making that can be used by

Reg Basken

*Executive Vice President,
Communications, Energy and
Paperworkers Union of Canada*



Throughout his career Reg Basken has worked actively to address the concerns of workers and organized labour. Over the past decade, Mr. Basken was head of Energy and Chemical Workers Union and in 1992, when it became the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada, Mr. Basken was elected its Executive Vice-President and Secretary. "When I first joined the National Round Table I wanted to raise the profile of environmental issues among labour organizations while appraising others in the area of a labour viewpoint," he says.

Mr. Basken lives in Ottawa and has been a member of the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy since 1990. "There is getting to be an understanding of sustainable development and environmental issues that wasn't there when I joined the Round Table," Mr. Basken says.

He is currently Co-Chair of its Task Force on Consensus Decision Making.

those presenting information on the CDM process. With the completion of these last two projects, the official work of the Task Force will be completed. Task Force members will continue to carry out the mandate individually by contributing to the dialogue on consensus decision making in Canada, shaping and being shaped by the process that continues to evolve.

For more information contact Steve Thompson: 613-995-7519.

Pat Delbridge served as a member of the NRTEE from its inception in 1988 to 1994. During that period she was a member of the committee that produced the book, *Decision-Making Practices for Sustainable Development*, and of the Foreign Policy Committee, which was active in a variety of areas, such as providing advice to the Prime Minister on preparations for the Earth Summit in Rio.

Her major accomplishment was leading NRTEE participation in the Economic Instruments Collaborative, a successful multi-stakeholder undertaking to devise market based approaches to address air quality problems. In addition to heading her own issues management firm Pat Delbridge Associates, she was also the first chair of the federal government's Environmental Choice Program.

The Honourable

Glen Cummings has been an unflinching supporter of the round table concept at all levels since his appointment to the National Round Table in 1989. Although his term on the National Round Table has ended he continues to encourage use of round tables as the Minister for the Environment, Government of Manitoba. In fact, Manitoba boasts more local round tables than any other province in Canada. "Manitobans have demonstrated their commitment to sustainable development," Minister Cummings says. "We are extremely pleased that so many community round tables are sharing information on how to achieve sustainability."

As Co-Chair of the Standing Committee on Education and Communication, Minister Cummings believed in empowering groups, particularly young people and communities, to take action on sustainability. Minister Cummings was pivotal in the establishment of Learning for a Sustainable Future, a national sustainable development education program.

Minister Cummings continues to serve on the NRTEE Rural Renewal Task Force, which is looking at ways to revitalize rural Canada and make it sustainable, and the *Projet de société*, which is drafting a national sustainable development strategy.

Projet de société: Planning for a Sustainable Future

The *Projet de Société: Planning for a Sustainable Future* is a multi-stakeholder partnership of government, indigenous, business and voluntary organizations committed to promoting Canada's transition to a sustainable future. The *Projet de société* provides a forum for bringing together sectors and interest groups to build consensus and partnerships in an effort to link their activities and contributions to a common purpose. It acts as a role catalyst for change, recognizing that sustainable development is a collective responsibility of all Canadians. For that change to come about, Canadians need to understand what sustainable development means to their lives, how they need to change their behaviour, what others are doing and how we can learn from each other's experience.

Established in November 1992 as a follow-up to the Earth Summit, the Projet spent much of its first year laying the groundwork for launching a National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS). Initially the substantive work of the Projet has focused on three complementary and reinforcing activities: A Report on Canadian Responses to Agenda 21 and the Rio Conventions; A Draft Framework and Process for Sustainability Planning, and practical actions to test and demonstrate the approach to a NSDS. Also during the first year a Working Group and small secretariat were established supported largely by the five initial sponsoring institutions: Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, Environment Canada, the International Institute for Sustainable Development, the International Development Research Centre, and the National Round Table.

Following the third National Stakeholders Assembly in December, 1993, the Projet asked the NRTEE to assume a larger management role for the phase of the Projet and the NRTEE plenary subsequently agreed to facilitate such a process.

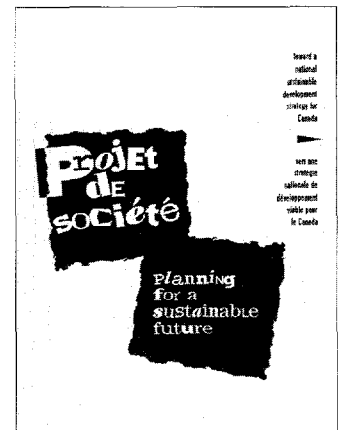
The *Projet de société* has since focused its attention on the development of the NSDS. Although many other countries, all of Canada's provinces and territories, and many Canadian municipalities and regions have created sustainability strategies, the Projet is Canada's only national process now underway.

On November 3 and 4, 1994, stakeholders from across Canada will gather for the fourth National Stakeholders Assembly (NSA) to review progress since the last Assembly, and to chart a course for the coming months. The principle focus of the NSA will be the "Draft Draft" National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) that the Working Group was instructed to develop. This Assembly will provide a critical opportunity for stakeholders to ensure that the Draft Draft NSDS reflects the concerns and views of as many sectors of Canadian society as possible.

In addition to reviewing the NSDS, stakeholders at the Projet's November Assembly will address the critical issues of outreach and implementation. Stakeholders will discuss what the next steps should be to ensure that as many Canadians as possible engage in the transition to sustainable development. The agenda for the NSA was set at a meeting of the Working Group in September. Also discussed were a new management structure for the Projet and a review of other possible Projet activities.

Working Group members recently participated in a workshop designed to focus attention on some of the tools or transition strategies needed to overcome barriers to sustainable development. The aim of the "Alchemists Workshop — Turning Barriers into Opportunities" was threefold: to identify key roadblocks to sustainability and their corresponding transition tools; to discuss various processes through which stakeholders could be engaged in implementing transition strategies; and to introduce a number of new individuals (and ideas) to the Projet.

New stakeholders are always welcome. The Projet process is open and inclusive. For more information contact Sandy Scott: 613-943-0394.



LEAD^{ing} The Way

What do you get when you combine 14 mid-career professionals from across the country with business, academic and environmental gurus associated with the National Round Table? You get the makings of a two-week residential training course on sustainable development as part of *LEAD* (Leadership for Environment And Development) Canada.

LEAD Canada marks the first time an industrialized country has participated in *LEAD* International, an initiative sponsored by Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the Rockefeller Foundation in the U.S. *LEAD*'s purpose is to network mid-career professionals across many sectors on a national and international basis in an effort to advance sustainable development. Other countries participating in *LEAD* International include Brazil, China, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Indonesia and the Commonwealth of Independent States. It is an intensive two-year program, which has residential training in the home country and international components in Thailand, Zimbabwe, and Costa Rica.

Every year 15 mid-career professionals are selected from each country to become *LEAD* Associates. *LEAD* Canada associates include Paul Thoppil, a senior policy analyst with the Treasury Board, David McKeown, a public health physician with the City of Toronto, Natasha Hassan, an editorial writer with the Financial Post, and Brian Smith, a public transit official from Halifax.

The associates were required to complete a research paper on a sustainable development issue prior to the first residential session. Essay topics ranged from sustainable community green plan strategies to sustainable development process ramifications of an interprovincial bridge in Ottawa-Hull. These provided an opportunity for the associates to begin to deal with the issues of sustainable development.

Associates spent two weeks at Carleton University in a graduate seminar environment, learning about sustainable development issues in Canada through guest lecturers, field trips, and role play. Brian Smith says he felt privileged to be a part of this "eye-opening experience, where I could interact with guest speakers who were the best in their field." Guest lecturers were culled from the National Round Table's networks, reflecting a wide range of sectoral and regional interests. As an example of this dynamic learning environment, Elizabeth May, the executive director of the Sierra Club and member of the National Round Table, Patrick McGuinness, the vice president of the Fisheries Council and Don McAllister, a



Associates spent two weeks at Carleton University, learning about sustainable development issues through guest lecturers, field trips, and role play.

marine biologist from the Canadian Museum of Nature led a panel discussion on the fishing industry in Canada.

In addition to guest lecturers, there was peer learning in the form of an associate-led workshop on media and sustainable development. Out-of-class training included field trips to the International Development Research Centre and the Avenor pulp and paper mill. Basic Internet instruction has equipped the associates to roam about the Information highway and connect with their counterparts at home and abroad.

According to Susan Lett, Director of Finance with the Environment Council of Alberta, "the *LEAD* program has been rewarding because of the networking possibilities and the opportunity to increase my awareness of environment and development, especially at the national level."

A pulp and paper round table role play gave the associates a hands-on introduction to multi-stakeholder processes. At the national and international level, a simulation of a GATT dispute on leg-hold traps brought home the connection between trade and the environment.

Diversity is a word that comes to mind when David McKeown thinks about the *LEAD* program. To him, diversity "in terms of the international nature of *LEAD*, the ideas I've been exposed to, and the participants themselves has made this a truly unique and profound experience." He adds, "it's been a rare opportunity for me to get away from the pressures of work for two weeks and completely immerse myself in issues of global importance."

The National Round Table is responsible for the administration of *LEAD* Canada. For more information contact Steve Thompson: 613-995-7519.



Stuart Smith

President, Phillip Utilities Management Corporation

Dr. Stuart Smith is a man of many careers, having occupied senior positions in the fields of medicine, politics, science policy and environmental business. In 1994 he became President of Philip Utilities Management Corp. and Senior Vice-President of Philip Environmental Inc., Canada's biggest industrial recycling firm. He remains President of RockCliffe Research and Technology Inc., a company he founded in 1987 to produce commercial benefits from Canadian scientific research.

His career in politics included serving as Leader of the Opposition and proposing the first Environmental Bill of Rights in Ontario. A former Chair of the Science Council of Canada, Dr. Smith has been honoured for his public service by awards from the Canadian Advanced Technology Association, Mount Allison University, Conestoga College, Ryerson Polytechnic Institute and the Government of France.

His goals as a member of the NRTEE include "a chance to have an impact on the policies that affect environmental industries and a better regulatory system that is acceptable to both environmentalists and industry."

Lori Williams

Lawyer, Harper Grey Easton

Lori Williams believes that "the Round Table can be an important and effective vehicle for educating both the government and the public, provided we make the message understandable. I hope that the NRTEE will give me the opportunity to see things happen." As a lawyer with Harper Grey Easton of Vancouver, specializing in the areas of personal injury litigation, employment law and professional negligence, Ms. Williams is accustomed to seeing things happen.

In addition to her legal practice, Lori Williams is a Past-President of the Northwest Wildlife Preservation Society and is an active member of the Environment, Civil Litigation and Insurance sections of the B.C. branch of the Canadian Bar Association. She is also a volunteer researcher for the Westcoast Women's Legal Education and Action Fund.



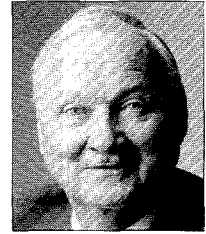
Maurice Strong

Chair, Ontario Hydro

The Honourable Maurice F. Strong has had a long career as one of Canada's foremost sustainable development ambassadors. He was Secretary-General of the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development (the Earth Summit) and Under-Secretary General of the United Nations. Mr. Strong remains an advisor to the United Nations, is Chairman of the Earth Council, Chairman of the World Resources Institute, and serves on the board of several other public service organizations.

As Chair of Ontario Hydro, Mr. Strong is leading North America's largest utility through an ambitious sustainable development strategy. "We want to make Ontario Hydro a world leader in energy efficiency and sustainable development."

Mr. Strong was appointed to the National Round Table in May, 1994. "I am hoping that in the period ahead there will be an even closer interaction between the Round Table and the shaping of government policies and public responses," he says.

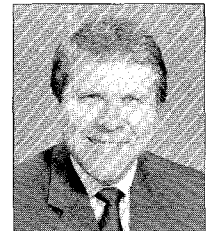


Arthur Hanson

President and CEO, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

Given Dr. Hanson's involvement in sustainable development planning at the IISD, in Winnipeg, it was not surprising that he was appointed to the National Round Table in May, 1994. "The National Round Table is the senior body in Canada responsible for advising the Prime Minister on sustainable development," Mr. Hanson says, "I am honoured to be part of that process. But I think it is important that we can be individuals who interpret subject matter in a way that leads to practical results."

Over the past two decades Dr. Hanson has initiated a number of major programs in environment and development, especially in Southeast Asia and North America. He is a Board Member of the U.S.-based Global Tomorrow Coalition, the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development, an advisor to the Volvo Environment Prize and serves on numerous Canadian and international environment and development committees.



Round Table Round Up

Ontario Partner in Joint Newsletter

To increase public awareness of sustainability at the community level, the Ontario Round Table on Environment and Economy is publishing a joint newsletter with Healthy Communities, Green Communities, Ontario Community Economic Development Alliance and Environment Canada. This newsletter will describe each organization and profile the array of initiatives which have resulted from their work. The newsletter will also provide an opportunity for ORTEE to bring readers up-to date on its activities and future direction.

The Ontario Round Table is also preparing a "how-to" resource package for communities, to introduce the concept of sustainable communities in a practical way. The package will incorporate general community development and animation while addressing the health, environment, economy and social concerns. The package includes *Achieving Sustainable Communities* by Nigel Richardson, a literature review by Mark Roseland, sustainability principles, a guideline to achieving incorporation and charitable status, and the ORTEE's Sustainability Map Inventory. All items in the package are also available separately.

The Ontario Round Table was recently honoured with an Award of Merit by the Canada Employment Centre for Students for outstanding participation in the summer employment program. Only 25 organizations out of a field of 800 were recognized for their enthusiasm, encouragement and support of student employment. Two students worked at the ORTEE for the summer.

For more information contact Ron Neilson, 416-327-2032.

Manitoba Drafting Sustainable Development Act

The Manitoba Round Table held its 20th meeting in August in Boissevain, Manitoba. Premier Gary Filmon continues to serve enthusiastically as its Chair and has been a strong voice for sustainable development in Manitoba. One of the main priorities of the Round Table is the drafting of a Sustainable Development Act for the province. The act would make sustainable development the operating policy of all government departments and ensure that all decisions and programs were assessed from a sustainable development perspective before approval. It is still in the early draft phase, but progress is going well, says Executive Director Bob Sopuck. A discussion paper has been circulated for public consultation. The Round Table hopes to have a draft Act ready by the end of the year.

In addition to promoting sustainable development in his province, Round Table Chair Gary Filmon was the only Canadian invited to speak at the Great Plains Forum in Minneapolis at the beginning of October. The forum was part of the Global Tomorrow Coalition's Sustainable America Initiative.

For more information contact Bob Sopuck, at 204-945-1124.

Local Round Tables Share Valuable Lessons

The B.C. Round Table pulled together leaders from some of British Columbia's local round tables (LRTs) in May to share valuable lessons and shed light on the progress being made in Canada in sustainable development planning at the local level. Views and experiences shared at the meeting have been captured in a report titled *Local Round Tables: Realizing Their Full Potential*. The report was published

jointly by the former British Columbia Round Table, The Commission on Resources and Environment, the Fraser Basin Management Program and the National Round Table. Copies of the report can be obtained in English or French from the National Round Table.

Nova Scotia Releases Public Consultation Report

The Public Consultation Committee of the Nova Scotia Round Table on the Environment and the Economy completed its report on the Discussion Draft of the Nova Scotia Environment Act and presented it to the N.S. Environment Minister. The Committee held eight public meetings across the province between January and May of this year. A workshop held in April identified six major issues in the draft Act: Ministerial discretion, enforcement, delegation of authority, liability, environmental assessment, and water resources.

Key segments of the report include the following: definition of watercourse and the formal recognition of watershed advisory groups; that the public registry be readily accessible; calls for public input on policy and regulation development; that the act provide for studies to define watershed and inventory, determine the state of the province's ground and surface water resources and classify water resources in terms of sensitivity and value.

The Environment Department will now review the report and address concerns that have been identified. A point-by-point response to the issues will be released this fall. A draft Environment Act is expected to be tabled in the fall sitting of the Legislature.

To obtain a copy of the report, call 1-800-424-4835.

Upcoming Conferences and Meetings

1994 Environment and Energy Conference of Ontario

On November 15 and 16 the Ontario Ministry of Environment and Energy will host the 1994 Environment and Energy Conference of Ontario (EECO 94). In conjunction with this conference, The Partners' Forum will bring together 40 to 50 displays from innovative Ontario companies, industry associations, research and development agencies, and government support programs and financial institutions. For more information contact: (416) 323-4649.

CONNEXION 94

Environment Canada will host the Connexion 94 Conference December 1 & 2 at the Chateau Laurier Hotel in Ottawa, Ontario. Keynote speakers, including Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Environment Sheila Copps, will share their views on the environmental agenda. The 1994 Environmental Achievement Awards ceremony will be held on the evening of December 1. For more information contact: (613) 224-2539.

Youth Action on Health and the Environment

This conference will take place in Toronto, November 11-13, 1994. It aims to create partnerships among students, school administrators, community leaders and others to implement action plans for healthier and sustainable school, home and community environments. For more information contact Hélène Cameron, Canadian Association of School Health: (604) 535-7664.

Environmental Reporting: A Corporate Perspective

The Environmental Management, Accounting and Reporting Interest

Group of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants is presenting a two day conference on Environmental Reporting: A Corporate Perspective, December 1 & 2 in Vancouver. Topics include benefits and risks of environmental reporting, plus use of environmental management systems and risk assessments. Examples and guidelines for reporting will be provided. Registration info line: (604) 623-3770.

Shediac Valley Model Ocean Symposium

On November 8-10, 1994, a symposium will be held in Moncton, N.B., to discuss a proposed Shediac Valley Model Ocean — an experiment in integrated management of marine resources. Its objectives are to conserve marine resources and maximize socioeconomic benefits, and provide a model for managing marine resources throughout Canada.

The symposium will bring together stakeholders and individuals who have conducted large-scale experiments in marine-resource manage-

ment. For more information contact: Louis Lapierre, Chair for Sustainable Development, Université de Moncton: (506) 858-4498.

Building a Sustainable World Through Tourism

Queen Noor of Jordan was Honorary Chairperson of the International Institute for Peace through Tourism's Second Global Conference, Building a Sustainable World Through Tourism, held in Montreal, September 12-16. Fifteen international keynote speakers inspired presentations from more than 70 countries with their visions of the potential of tourism as a "Global Peace Industry." NRTEE Vice-Chair Pierre Marc Johnson was master of opening ceremonies. More than 200 tourism success stories from around the world were shared during the conference. Also profiled at the conference were the Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Sustainable Tourism developed by the IIPT and spearheaded by the NRTEE.

For more information contact the IIPT: (514) 281-1822 or fax (514) 848-1099.

Sustainable Development and Canadian Cities: Current Initiatives

by Ray Tomalty and David Pell.

Published by the Canadian Global Change Program of the Royal Society of Canada, in partnership with the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Highlights 300 community sustainable development initiatives in existence across Canada. Includes brief description and contact list. Available from the Canadian Global Change Program: (613) 991-5639.

Environmental Accounting for the Sustainable Development Corporation: Strategies and Techniques

by Daniel Blake Rubenstein.

Corporations must decide how much to invest in the natural capital (air, water, land, forests) that they depend upon for their economic survival. How do they project the costs of such investments under conditions of scientific and legislative uncertainty? An innovative roadmap is laid out in this book, using a case study of a Canadian forestry company. Anyone interested in developing a long-term environmental strategy will find this book useful: senior corporate managers, accountants, internal auditors, academics, students and environmentalists.

Published by Greenwood Publishing Group, Westport CT. Tel: 1-800-474-4329. Available in October, for \$55.

THANK YOU

Lester Lafond, a founding member of the National Round Table, contributed a unique aboriginal business perspective to Round Table discussions. He took a lead role in developing a *National Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Sustainable Tourism* as Co-chair of the National Round Table Tourism Dialogue. The Tourism Dialogue brought together over 25 stakeholders in the sector including all provincial and territorial departments of tourism, several provincial round tables, as well as various tourism industry associations.

Canada is the only country to have developed a National Code for Tourism. It was published in partnership with the Tourism Industry Association of Canada.

A former Land Entitlement Negotiator, Mr. Lafond remains President of Lafond Enterprises Limited in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, in addition to holding directorships in several companies. He stepped down from the Round Table in 1993.

David Morton joined the National Round Table in June of 1991 as Chair and CEO of Alcan Aluminium. A member of the Task Force on Trade and Sustainability (now Foreign Policy), Mr. Morton represented his sector well, making a solid contribution to the Task Force in its formulation of advice to government. Mr. Morton's term on the Round Table ended in May, 1994.

PROGRESS cont. from pg.14

tural and mining regions of the country. Large water bodies such as the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River have become extremely polluted. Canada's most serious water quality problems are not the result of naturally occurring substances but are the result of human produced synthetic compounds.

Since the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement was signed in 1972, discharges of contaminants in the Great Lakes have been reduced, the water quality has visibly improved and some biological communities have been restored to viability, according to the International Joint Commission (IJC). Some improvements have also been made in reducing toxic emissions. For example, Dow Chemical has reduced daily discharges into the St. Clair River at Sarnia by 90 per cent.

Despite progress in cleaning up municipal and industrial pollution over the past 20 years, the Great Lakes ecosystem and life forms dependent on it, including humans, are at "a continued unacceptable level of risk from persistent toxic substances that are threatening human health and the future of the ecosystem," according to a recent IJC report.

We haven't come close to eliminating toxic discharges, experts say. And we are only beginning to understand the long-term effects on humans and other species of exposure to even low doses of toxics, Runnalls says. Meanwhile, Beluga whales in the St. Lawrence River have been so severely contaminated with toxic substances that they must be treated as toxic waste when they die.

Conclusion: What will it take?

In the end, the answer to the question: *Are we making progress?* is a matter of perspective. One can take an optimistic approach and say the foundation has been laid for the

changes to come. We've seen a tremendous increase in awareness and an encouraging growth of sustainable development planning and activity across the country. One can take a pessimistic view and say that our practices are still unsustainable and we are running out of time.

Is the rate of progress moving fast enough to overcome degradation? Probably not, most experts say. "Our response is still far too little and far too slow," says Strong. As author Paul Hawken says in *The Ecology of Commerce*, "if the draw-down of our global resources is proceeding at an exponential rate while industry is changing at an arithmetic rate, it will be a case of too little, too late."

Experts agree that Canada must move urgently to see a promising beginning through to more fundamental change: in our institutions, market signals, pricing mechanisms, policies, regulations and economic incentives. "We've been inching along," says Hanson. "Now we need a great leap forward."

There is little doubt that the next steps will be much more difficult. "The hard part now has to happen," says Dale.

What will it take? Leadership, positive examples, and a concerted push from the general public to provide impetus, experts say.

"Individuals are increasingly aware of the need to apply environmental and sustainable development principles to their own lives," says Strong. But they need positive examples and leadership. "It is not easy to institutionalize the kind of cultural change that sustainable development requires without strong and supportive leadership from the top," says the Canadian who showed leadership to the world's leaders at Rio.

Kelly Hawke Baxter is Director of Communications at the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy, and editor of the *NRT Review*.

Communications and Publications

The NRTEE promotes sustainable development in all sectors and regions of Canada. One of the ways we do this is through an extensive publications program. The NRTEE has produced over 50 publications targeting various sectors and addressing a wide range of issues.

Over the past eight months the National Round Table has sent out over 12,000 publications in direct response to requests for information. We are in the process of surveying our readership to determine how we can serve you better. Please take a moment to fill in the questionnaire which is attached to this *Review*.

Sustainable Communities

It is apparent from positive feedback to our Spring newsletter that communities are crying out for information on other sustainability initiatives and encouragement for their efforts. The NRTEE is helping get the message out. We've produced a workbook on local round tables with the B.C. Round Table, the Commission on Resources and Environment and the Fraser Basin Management Program, called *Local Round Tables: Realizing their Full Potential*. On the east coast, we are helping the Rural and Small Town Program at Mount Allison University produce a series of booklets on sustainable communities. We've also reprinted the ever-popular *Toward Sustainable Communities* by Mark Roseland.

The Information Highway

The NRTEE has boldly ventured onto the information highway with a conference on WEB (nrtee.susdev), and E-Mail addresses on both Internet and WEB. Within six months we will have all our publications available on-line.

Upcoming Publications

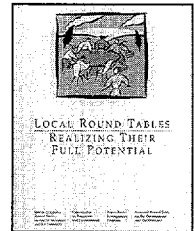
The Task Force on Reporting is producing a book this fall that will synthesize the NRTEE's advice to the Prime Minister with results from a Colloquium held last year. This fall the NRTEE will also produce a book on case studies of consensus decision making as a companion to the Guiding Principles.

The NRTEE is also producing a book on environmental audits and environmental management for academic institutions, based on case studies of successful initiatives, in partnership with the University of Calgary, the Canadian Association of University Business Officers, and Marriott Hotels.

Recent Publications

Local Round Tables: Realizing Their Full Potential

Produced by the B.C. Round Table on the Environment and the Economy in partnership with the Commission on Resources and the Environment, the Fraser Basin Management Board and the National Round Table. A how-to guide on setting up a local round table, based on B.C. examples. A useful resource for communities across the country.

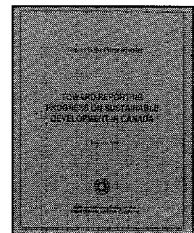


Building Consensus for a Sustainable Future: Guiding Principles

An joint initiative of Canadian Round Tables. Detailed explanation of how to do consensus decision making, based on 10 principles. Over 18,000 copies have been distributed.

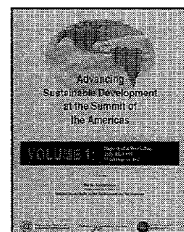
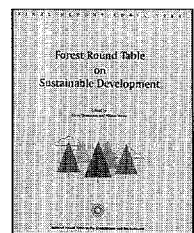
Toward Reporting Progress on Sustainable Development in Canada: Report to the Prime Minister

Report of the Task Force on Reporting. Includes 10 recommendations to government for establishing the information systems needed to assess our progress toward sustainable development.



Forest Round Table on Sustainable Development: Final Report

A consensus document that includes 26 principles for the sustainable management of Canada's forests, and stakeholder action plans.



Advancing Sustainable Development at the Summit of the Americas: Volume 1

Report of a workshop held in Washington, D.C., July, 1994.

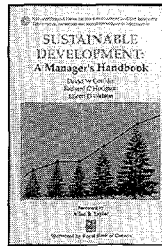
Working Paper

25: Sustainable Development as a Focus for Canada's Foreign Policy. A research paper for the Task Force on Foreign Policy which will form the basis of an NRTEE submission to the Foreign Policy Review.

Sustainable Development Book Series

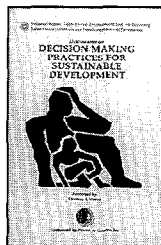
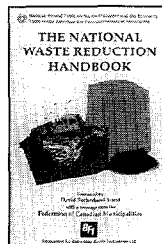
Sustainable Development: A Manager's Handbook

Helps managers and their organizations assess and improve their environmental and economic performance.



The National Waste Reduction Handbook

Explores options for solid waste reduction at the municipal level and provides waste reduction success stories.



Decision Making Practices for Sustainable Development

Explains how sustainable development can be integrated into the decision making practices of Canadian institutions.

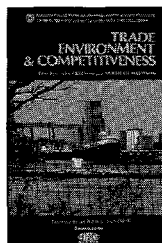


Toward Sustainable Communities: A Resource Book for Municipal and Local Governments

A reference book for local government officials and citizens who want to apply the concept of sustainable development to their own communities. Contains useful case studies and contacts. Over 10,000 copies distributed.

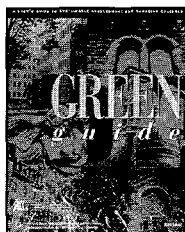
Trade, Environment and Competitiveness

A collection of papers by major Canadian and international stakeholders identifying the links between the environment and trade.



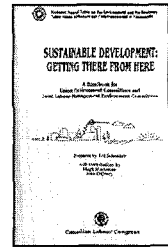
Green Guide: A User's Guide to Sustainable Development for Canadian Colleges

Contains a series of case studies from Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC) member institutions that have attempted to green their campuses.



Sustainable Development: Getting There From Here

A handbook for union environment committees and joint labour-management environment committees. Highlights the sustainable development experiences of Canadian unions at the local, regional and national levels.



Covering the Environment: A Handbook for Environmental Journalism

A useful source book for reporters on environmental issues and environmental journalism. Includes contact list.



Working Paper Series

#1 Prosperity and Sustainable Development for Canada: Advice to the Prime Minister with an introduction on Sustainability and Competitiveness by Ronald Doering and David Runnalls. Presents a series of 14 recommendations and conclusions on prosperity and sustainable development.

#2 The Financial Services Industry and Sustainable Development: Managing Change, Information and Risk by J. Anthony Cassils. Discusses the importance of sustainable development for the financial services industry in Canada.

#3 Lender Liability for Contaminated Sites: Issues for Lenders and Investors by Ernst & Young. Discusses issues that affect lenders and investors in contaminated sites including which sites should be cleaned up, what standards should be applied, and who should pay for clean up.

#4 Market Correction: Economic Incentives for Sustainable Development by Mike Kelly. Introduces market-based policy instruments and presents arguments for and against their implementation.

#5 Environmental Regulations and the Pulp and Paper Industry: An Examination of the Porter Strategy by Ronald Doering, François Bregha, Don Roberts, Steve Thompson and Dave Wilson. Tests the hypothesis of Michael Porter that stricter environmental regulation enhances competitiveness.

#6 Environmentally Perverse Government Incentives by Philippe Clément. Looks at impact of government incentives on the environment. Uses agricultural sector as an example.

#7 Environmental Impact Assessment and Competitiveness by Nancy Morgan, Martin Palleson and A.R. Thompson. Evaluates how environmental impact assessment affects Canadian competitiveness and

provides specific recommendations on controlling complexity, proliferation and overlap of measures.

#8 Emerging Trends and Issues in Canada's Environmental Industry by Anne Fouillard. Defines the environmental industry sector, discusses government funding of research and development in this area and makes recommendations for improving this sector's global performance.

#10 Trade, Competitiveness and the Environment by David Runnalls and Murray Smith. A report commissioned by The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment. Considers environmental standards and competitive advantage, the impact of environmental policies on trade and the impact of trade agreements on the environment.

#11 Sustainability and Prosperity: The Role of Infrastructure by Daryl Fields and Jack Ruitenbeek. Identifies key issues in the planning of physical and information infrastructure for an economically prosperous and sustainable society.

#12 Measuring Sustainable Development: Energy Production and Use in Canada by Western Environmental Trends Inc. Presents a family of national indicators for measuring Canada's progress towards sustainable energy production and use.

#13 Exploring Incentives: An Introduction to Incentives and Economic Instruments for Sustainable Development by J. Anthony Cassils. Provides an overview of a range of economic instruments and identifies specific opportunities for implementing them.

#14 Canadian Round Tables on the Environment and the Economy: Their History, Form and Function by Ronald Doering. Describes the genesis of the round table movement in Canada. Provides examples of how they work.

#15 Reporting on Sustainable Development in Support of National Decision-Makers by François Bregha, John Moffet and Vic Nishi. Contrasts the information available to governments in making decisions against the ideal needed to gauge progress toward more sustainable forms of development.

#16 Reporting on Sustainable Development: The Municipal and Household Level by Trevor Hancock. Discusses the need for municipalities and households to assess their own activities and impacts as they relate to sustainable development.

#17 Corporate Sustainable Development Reporting in Canada by David Nitkin and David Powell. Investigates the state of sustainable development reporting among Canadian corporations, private business establishments and other associations.

#18 Aperçu nationale sur la planification stratégique du développement durable dans les provinces et les territoires du Canada by Philippe Clément. Summarizes the response of Canada's provinces and territories to the

sustainable development challenge including strategies and actions.

#19 Canada's Agricultural and Trade Policies: Implications for Rural Renewal and Biodiversity by Robert Sopuck. Argues that redirecting some of Canada's agricultural support programs into areas that are not countervailable could improve rural conditions and sustain rural life. Recommends redirecting subsidies toward ecological services.

#20 Sustainable Development: Assessing the Law of Unfair Trade and North American Disputes by Sarah Richardson. An examination of Chapter 19 subsidies disputes under the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement, and their impact on the environment. (NOT YET AVAILABLE)

#21 A Renewed Framework for Government Accountability in the Area of Sustainable Development: Potential Role for a Canadian Parliamentary Auditor/Commissioner for the Environment by François Bregha and Philippe Clément. Provides four options for the mandate of a new parliamentary officer.

#22 Media, Fish and Sustainability: A Paper on Sustainable Development and the Canadian News Media by Michael Keating. Looks at how the disappearance of the northern cod was handled by the media, and how it might have been handled from a sustainable development perspective.

#23 Harvesting Methods in Canada's Forests edited by Steve Thompson. A summary of discussions on harvesting methods by Forest Round Table members.

#24 Municipal Reporting on Sustainable Development: A Status Review by Douglas Burch. Presents a "snap-shot" of sustainable development reporting at the community and municipal levels and offers insight into its evolution.

#25 Sustainable Development as a Focus for Canada's Foreign Policy by John Kirton. A research paper for the Task Force on Foreign Policy which will contribute to the NRTEE's submission to the Foreign Policy Review.

#26 Sustainable Development and Academic Institutions: Issues in Interdisciplinary Learning. Summarizes discussions from two academic workshops for sustainable development research institutes and teaching programs in Canada.

Other Reports and Products

You Can't Give it Away: Tax Aspects of Ecologically Sensitive Lands

Published by the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada). Examines how Canada's tax systems can act as a disincentive to setting aside ecologically significant lands for conservation purposes.

or admin@nrtee-trnee.ca

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*Co-owner,
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*President,
Woodnorth Holdings Inc.*

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The University of Calgary*

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*Chair,
Ontario Hydro*

His Honour Judge Barry Stuart

*Judge,
Territorial Court of the Yukon*

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*Lawyer,
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Committee Secretary

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Carole Desjardins

The National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy, mandated by the Parliament of Canada and reporting to the Prime Minister, plays the role of catalyst in identifying, explaining and promoting in all sectors of Canadian society and in all regions of Canada, the principles and practices of sustainable development.

Aussi disponible en français.

For more information, contact:

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