



post

ATLANTIC PROVINCES CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE



apcc.ca

NOVEMBER 2010 VOL. 2 NO. 9

Imagine

- Upcoming events
- **Monthly Contest!**
- And much more...

President's Message

Canada has a wealth of renewable energy resources and nowhere in the entire country will you find a greater variety of green energy sources than right here in Atlantic Canada. We have it all at our fingertips. Experts will tell you when it comes to renewable energy, diversity is king. That's because many forms of renewable energy are intermittent. The wind doesn't always blow, rivers run low in the summer months, the sun doesn't always shine and tidal currents are variable as the tides ebb and flow.

Besides a variety of sources, we have a couple of other major advantages here in Atlantic Canada when looking at the economics of renewable energy. First, we have the potential to produce much more energy than we need, leaving a surplus for export sales. And then we just happen to be strategically located right next door to the largest energy market on the planet. So while we are reducing our own carbon footprint producing green energy to replace thermal generating plants here at home, at the same time export sales would contribute to our economy. It's win/win.

This month I'll be travelling to each of the four Atlantic Provinces delivering a message "Rebranding Atlantica - One region, One strong voice". For years energy has had a prominent place in our Atlantica vision at APCC. Our vision of Atlantica is all about collaboration and cooperation, in short working together so our small region can thrive and compete in a big world. And now the call for some sort of regional energy strategy, particularly relating to the electric transmission grid, is being heard loud and clear from several quarters. This is a huge economic development opportunity for our region.

I learned an important lesson many years ago. If you don't clearly state what you mean, or define your position, others will. And, unfortunately, they may have an agenda very different from your own. Well that's what happened to our Atlantica initiative. Somehow we didn't get our message out to enough people and Atlantica opponents promoted a much different – a much less positive – message.

What a shame. While at APCC we were looking at the benefits of working together to create economic growth options as solutions for an aging, shrinking population, the outmigration of young people, rural depopulation, skilled labour shortages, access to capital and industries in decline, our Atlantica opponents were focused on painting a picture of greedy big businesses dominating our economy, polluting our environment, and contributing nothing to the welfare of our communities or their residents as they maximized profits on the backs of working people.

Meanwhile at APCC all we wanted was growth and prosperity for Atlantic Canadians in the hopes of building a strong vibrant economy full of promise for the next generation.



Bill Denyar,
*President & CEO,
Atlantic Provinces
Chambers of Commerce*

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Monthly Contest

In keeping with this month's theme of renewable energy, we have an autographed copy of David Suzuki's latest book *The Legacy; An Elder's Vision For Our Sustainable Future*, courtesy of DMPI Books. Simply email me at sclare@apcc.ca and I will enter your name in a draw for the winning prize. Deadline for submission is 5pm, November 26, 2010 and the lucky winner will be contacted directly by email.

**Last month's winner: Frank Likely,
Springhill and Area Chamber of Commerce!**



By Stephen Patrick Clare

Take a moment. Close your eyes and breathe deeply. Relax, suspend your disbelief, and open your mind to the possibilities.

Now, imagine.

Imagine that you have just arrived home from a long, hard day at the office. You plug in your electric car to recharge its fuel cell. You enter your home, flip on the lights and the stereo, both of which are powered by tidal turbines just a few kilometres away. You are famished, but the grill won't take long to fire up thanks to silvery solar panels on your roof.

Imagine.

"It all begins with the imagination."

Dr. David Suzuki is speaking to a sold-out crowd at Ondaatje Hall on the Dalhousie University campus in Halifax. Over 500 faithful fans have turned out on a warm Sunday evening in October for what might be the world-renowned scientist's last public appearance in Atlantic Canada.

Suzuki has been touring his latest book, *The Legacy: An Elder's Vision For Our Sustainable Future*, since its release earlier this year. It is his final work, he says, both a culmination of a lifetime of learning and a call for action.

"Conceive, believe, achieve, right?" he asks aloud.

The audience stirs, encouraging him to continue.

"Never before have we had the power to affect change the way that we do right now. We have the knowledge. We have the tools. All we need now is the popular and political will."

People begin to stand, and many are now clapping and cheering.

"You folks," says Suzuki strongly. "You folks here on the East Coast – more than anywhere else in Canada - are poised to lead this country into a brave new world, one that will see the economy and the environment co-exist in peace and prosperity."

"You have the knowledge. You have the tools. All you need now is the popular and political will."

It is a fitting finale, and Suzuki's words have hit home hard because they are inherently true. Later, as people mill about outside the venue doors, the talk is of environmental economics. More specifically, there is much discussion about the emergence of the renewable energy sector in Atlantic Canada.

Continued on next page...

Is your local chamber on board?



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"We are still very early in the game," says Tim Curry of the Atlantica Centre for Energy, an industry association dedicated to the sustainable growth and the economic development of the regional energy sector.

"But the potential is certainly there," he continues. "Renewable energy could very well become a big piece of our economic pie here in the coming years."

Curry isn't alone in his thinking. He and other industry experts believe up to 15 per cent of the region's economy could be tied into tidal, solar, wind and geothermal power by the year 2025.

"We have a real opportunity here," he continues. "That is, if we can get our act together."

What Curry means is that the Atlantic Provinces will need to develop greater integration and interdependency if they are going to compete on the global energy stage.

"Let's look strictly at the Maritimes for now. We have three provinces – Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and P.E.I. - with three different strategies in place. Throw in a mix of public and private ownership and what do you get? We're competing with each other, when we really should be working with one another."

The problems, he says, are deeply entrenched.

"Well, to begin with, there is a long-held mindset here that energy is strictly a provincial matter," he shares. "And because of that there are a variety of different operating systems.

"As if that wasn't enough, there are so many different regulatory hoops to jump through that we are scaring off potential investors."

Despite the barriers, however, there has been some serious movement towards creating a more sustainable economy in Atlantic Canada in recent years.

Since 1960, 37 wind farms have been developed across Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador and Prince Edward Island.

To bring that into perspective, a single 1MW turbine operating at a 45 per cent production rate will generate about 3.9 million kWh of electricity in a year - enough to meet the needs of about 500 households annually. This, of course, depends on the wind.

Tidal power is another piece of Nova Scotia's Renewable Electricity Plan, which will see the province committing to 25 per cent renewable energy by 2015 and 40 per cent by 2020.

Sub-sea cables that will transmit power from a test site in the Bay of Fundy to the province's electricity grid are scheduled to be installed by next summer.

Up to 100 turbines could be in place in the Bay of Fundy within the next decade.

Many believe that the Bay of Fundy is an ideal location to harness sustainable energy. It is estimated that more than 100 billion tonnes of water pour in and out of the inlet each year – enough to power 800,000 homes across the Maritime Provinces annually.

Three Canadian firms – Nova Scotia Power, Minas Basin Pulp and Paper, and Clean Current – are pursuing testing there, and one Singapore-based firm, Atlantis Resources Corporation, announced last month it is ready to install an 18-metre rotor diameter turbine in the Bay of Fundy next year that could power up to 1,000 homes.

Hydro power has long been a mainstay of Newfoundland and Labrador's energy strategy. Premier Danny Williams recently suggested that the province's crown-owned agency, Nalcor Energy, was in talks with both New Brunswick and Nova Scotia on developing sub-sea cable links to the proposed Lower Churchill hydroelectric project in Labrador.

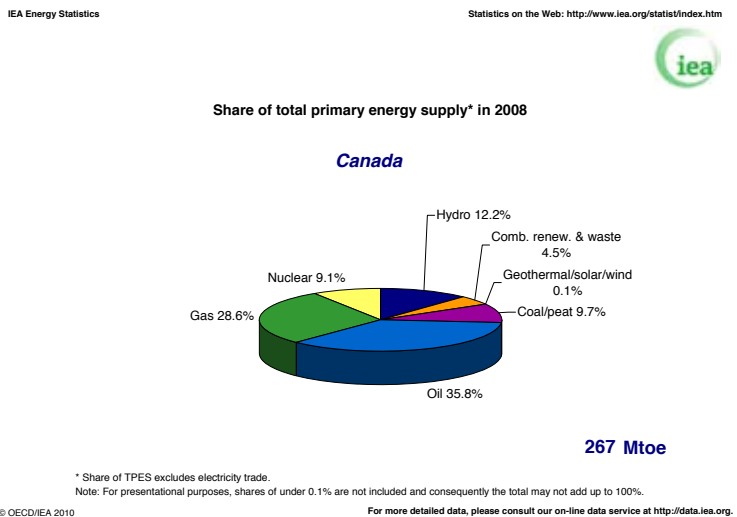
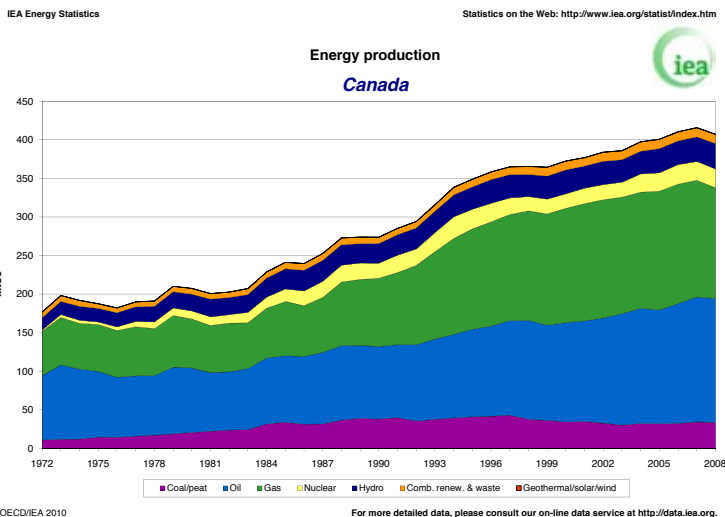
"All of these are positive steps," points out Mark Butler of the Ecology Action Centre in Halifax. "Any step away from our reliance upon fossil fuels is a step in the right direction. How these steps are going to tie into regional economic development has yet to be determined, but I am optimistic that it can play a major role in our future prosperity."

David Suzuki echoes the sentiment.

"The Chinese symbol for crisis is composed of two elements," he explains. "One is danger, and the other is opportunity."

"There is no doubting that we are in the midst of both an economic and environmental crisis. However, the converging of these factors presents great possibilities for a new paradigm – one that will see renewable energy at the forefront of the new economy."

"I think that Atlantic Canada can be a world-leader in this field. All of the pieces are in place to make it a key component of the regional economy. The trick will be to get all of the players on the same page and pointed in the same direction. And that is going to take a little imagination."





By Stephen Patrick Clare

Prenez un moment. Fermez vos yeux et respirez profondément. Relaxe, suspendez votre incrédulité et ouvrez votre esprit aux possibilités.

Maintenant, imaginez.

Imaginez que vous venez de rentrer chez vous après une longue journée difficile au bureau. Vous branchez votre voiture électrique pour recharger son élément à carburant. Vous entrez dans votre maison, vous allumez les lumières et le système de son qui sont tous deux alimentés par des hydro-éoliennes situées à quelques kilomètres seulement. Vous avez une faim de loup. Mais il suffira de quelques instants pour réchauffer votre gril grâce à la présence de panneaux solaires argentés sur votre toit.

Imaginez.

« Tout commence avec l'imagination. »

David Suzuki prend la parole à guichets fermés au pavillon Ondaatje sur le campus de l'Université Dalhousie à Halifax. Plus de 500 fidèles amateurs sont venus l'écouter par ce chaud dimanche soir d'octobre, cette prestation publique de ce scientifique de renommée mondiale étant peut-être sa dernière au Canada atlantique.

David Suzuki est en tournée pour présenter son dernier livre, *The Legacy: An Elder's Vision For Our Sustainable Future*, qu'il a publié plus tôt cette année. Il dit que c'est son livre final qui est à la fois l'apogée d'une vie d'apprentissage et un appel à l'action.

« Concevez, croyez, accomplissez, n'est-ce pas? », dit-il à haute voix.

L'auditoire remue et l'encourage à continuer.

« Jamais auparavant n'avons-nous eu le pouvoir de déclencher le changement comme c'est le cas à l'heure actuelle. Nous possédons le savoir. Nous avons les outils. Tout ce qu'il nous faut maintenant, c'est la volonté populaire et politique. »

Certaines personnes commencent à se lever, et de nombreuses autres l'applaudissent et l'encouragent en criant.

« Vous, Messieurs-dames, dit énergiquement David Suzuki. Vous, Messieurs-dames, ici sur la côte est, plus que n'importe où ailleurs au Canada, vous êtes fin prêts à diriger ce pays dans un brave nouveau monde, un monde qui verra l'économie et l'environnement coexister dans la paix et la prospérité. »

« Vous avez le savoir. Vous avez les outils. Tout ce qu'il vous faut maintenant, c'est la volonté populaire et politique. »

C'est une conclusion pertinente, et les paroles de David Suzuki ont frappé fort, car elles sont vraies en soi. Plus tard, alors que les gens fourmillent à l'extérieur des portes d'entrée, on parle d'économie de l'environnement. En particulier, on discute beaucoup de l'émergence du secteur de l'énergie renouvelable au Canada atlantique.

« La partie ne fait que commencer, dit Tim Curry de l'Atlantica Centre for Energy, une association de l'industrie vouée à la croissance durable et au développement économique du secteur de l'énergie de la région.

« Mais le potentiel est certainement ici, poursuit-il. L'énergie renouvelable pourrait très bien devenir une grosse pointe de notre tarte économique ici au cours des années à venir. »

Suite à la page suivante

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Tim Curry n'est pas le seul à penser ainsi. D'autres experts de l'industrie croient que jusqu'à 15 p. 100 de l'économie de la région pourrait être rattachée à l'énergie marémotrice, solaire, éolienne et géothermique d'ici l'année 2025.

« Nous avons un débouché réel ici, ajoute-t-il. C'est-à-dire, si nous pouvons nous organiser. »

Ce que Tim Curry veut dire, c'est que les provinces de l'Atlantique devront intensifier leur intégration et leur interdépendance si elles veulent livrer concurrence sur la scène mondiale de l'énergie.

« Pour l'instant, regardons uniquement les Maritimes. Nous avons trois provinces, la Nouvelle-Écosse, le Nouveau-Brunswick et l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard, qui ont chacune leur stratégie propre en place. Ajoutez à cela un mélange de propriétaires publics et privés et quel est le résultat? Nous nous livrons concurrence les uns les autres, alors que nous devrions vraiment travailler ensemble. »

Les problèmes, dit-il, sont profondément ancrés.

« Eh bien, pour commencer, depuis toujours, on croit que l'énergie est une question strictement provinciale, dit-il. Et pour cette raison, il existe une variété de systèmes d'exploitation différents. »

« Et comme si cela ne suffisait pas, il y a tellement d'exigences législatives à respecter que nous effrayons les investisseurs potentiels. »

Mais malgré les obstacles, au cours des dernières années, on a fait des efforts sérieux pour créer une économie plus durable au Canada atlantique.

Depuis 1960, 37 parcs éoliens ont vu le jour en Nouvelle-Écosse, au Nouveau-Brunswick, à Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador et à l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard.

Pour ramener l'affaire à de justes proportions, une seule turbine de 1 MW fonctionnant à un taux de production de 45 p. 100 produira environ 3,9 millions de kWh d'électricité par année, donc assez pour combler les besoins annuels d'environ 500 ménages. Bien entendu, cela dépend du vent.

L'énergie marémotrice est un autre élément du plan d'énergie renouvelable de la Nouvelle-Écosse, qui verra la province s'engager à fournir 25 p. 100 d'énergie renouvelable d'ici 2015 et 40 p. 100 d'ici 2020.

Des câbles sous-marins transmettant l'énergie depuis un site d'essai de la baie de Fundy jusqu'au réseau électrique de la province devraient être installés d'ici l'été prochain.

Il pourrait y avoir jusqu'à 100 turbines en place dans la baie de Fundy au cours de la prochaine décennie.

Beaucoup croient que la baie de Fundy est un endroit idéal pour exploiter l'énergie durable. On estime que plus de 100 milliards de tonnes d'eau coulent dans la baie chaque année. C'est suffisant pour alimenter annuellement 800 000 maisons des Maritimes.

Trois entreprises canadiennes, Nova Scotia Power, Minas Basin Pulp and Paper et Clean Current, mènent des essais dans la baie de Fundy, et une entreprise de Singapour, Atlantis Resources Corporation, a annoncé le mois dernier qu'elle était prête à installer une turbine à rotor de 18 mètres dans la baie de Fundy qui pourrait alimenter jusqu'à 1000 foyers l'an prochain.

L'électricité a depuis longtemps été le pilier de la stratégie de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador en matière d'énergie. Récemment, le premier ministre, Danny Williams, a laissé entendre que la société de la Couronne de la province, Nalcor Energy, menait des pourparlers à la fois au Nouveau-Brunswick et en Nouvelle-Écosse concernant l'installation de câbles sous-marins pour se brancher au projet hydroélectrique de Lower Churchill au Labrador.

« Toutes ces étapes sont positives, de souligner Mark Butler de l'Ecology Action Centre d'Halifax. Toute démarche éliminant notre dépendance aux combustibles fossiles est une démarche dans la bonne direction. Il reste à déterminer comment rattacher ces démarches au développement économique régional, mais je crois avec optimisme que cela peut jouer un rôle majeur dans notre prospérité future. »

David Suzuki fait écho à ce sentiment.

« Le symbole chinois désignant le mot crise se compose de deux éléments, dit-il. Le premier est le danger, et le second est le débouché. »

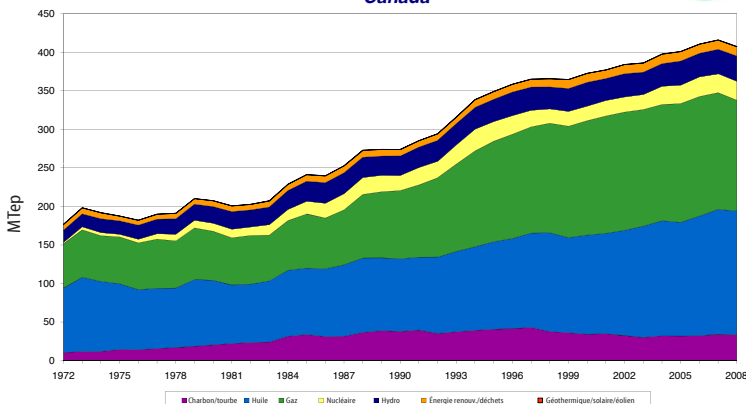
« Il ne fait aucun doute que nous sommes au beau milieu d'une crise à la fois économique et environnementale. Mais, la convergence de ces facteurs offre des possibilités fantastiques pour un nouveau paradigme qui verra l'énergie renouvelable à l'avant-plan de notre économie. »

« Je crois que le Canada atlantique peut être un chef de file mondial dans ce domaine. Tous les morceaux sont en place pour en faire un élément clé de l'économie régionale. L'astuce consistera à placer tous les acteurs sur la même page et pointant dans la même direction. Et cela exigera un peu d'imagination. »

Statistiques de l'IEA relatives à l'énergie

Statistiques sur le site Web : <http://www.iea.org/statist/index.htm>

Production d'énergie
Canada



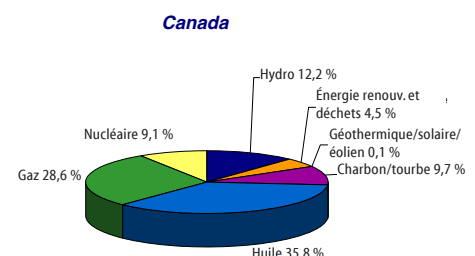
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Statistiques de l'IEA relatives à l'énergie

Statistiques sur le site Web : <http://www.iea.org/statist/index.htm>

Part de l'approvisionnement en énergie primaire totale* en 2008



267 Mtoe

*La part de l'AÉPT exclut le commerce de l'électricité. Nota : Pour des raisons de présentation, les parts inférieures à 0,1 % ne sont pas comprises et, conséquemment, le total pourrait ne pas correspondre à 100 %.

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from the Hip

Last month I spoke with Dr. David Suzuki in advance of his appearance in Halifax to promote his latest, and supposedly, last book *The Legacy; An Elder's Guide to a Sustainable Future*.

I have known Suzuki for a number of years and I have always been impressed with his no-nonsense commitment to the planet and his good (and often self-deprecating) sense of humour.

This time, however, there was a real feeling of urgency to our conversation. Perhaps driven by his own heightened sense of mortality (he is 75 this year), the multi-award winning scientist, author, professor and broadcaster spoke at length about the greater need for stewardship in the field of renewable energy.

Interestingly, he pointed to Atlantic Canada as being poised to take on the role of world leader in environmental and economic sustainability.

Not only do we have a much smaller ecological footprint than the rest of Canada, but the variety of both our weather and our natural landscapes make us an ideal location to explore and exploit a myriad of renewable energy options.

In particular, he noted the tremendous opportunities for tidal power in the Bay of Fundy, wind energy in P.E.I. and natural gas development in both New Brunswick and Newfoundland-Labrador. He also believes that solar power could be a big boon for all four Atlantic Canadian provinces in the years to come.

The problem, says Suzuki, is a lack of leadership and political will; as lesser energy hubs like the Northeast U.S. thrive under one vision and one strategy, we are still arguing amongst ourselves. It's embarrassing, he says, and even criminal.

Still - as you will read in this month's cover story - there has been some progress in the field of renewable energy here in recent years, and we can find inspiration in the series of small, sure steps being taken by those that are determined to work together and to leave a lasting legacy for generations to follow.

Stephen Patrick Clare, Editor.
sclare@apcc.ca

APCC's going on the road with its presentation series...

Rebranding Atlantica - One region, One strong voice

*Join APCC's President & CEO Bill Denyar
for an update on Atlantica...what's next???*

The dates are:

Charlottetown - Wednesday, Nov. 10

Saint John - Monday, Nov. 15

St. John's - TBC

Halifax - Friday, Nov. 26

For locations and times, email tdauphinee@apcc.ca
or phone (902) 678-6284.



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APCC and local chambers *launch exciting new program* for experienced workers

Kentville, N.S. – The Atlantic Provinces Chambers of Commerce (APCC), in partnership with local member chambers of commerce, has launched a program in Amherst, Nova Scotia, and Summerside, P.E.I., to help more employers find and hire experienced workers who are in the “third quarter” of their lives.

Funded by the Government of Canada’s Office of Literacy and Essential Skills, the ThirdQuarter program was created in part to help offset present and future labour shortages, but also to take advantage of the essential skills, knowledge, and talent that people who have retired or semi-retired have to offer to the workforce.

“In today’s economic environment, we’re always looking for ways to help our local businesses continue to grow,” says Bill Denyar, APCC president and CEO. “Our country is in a retirement boom, and businesses in our region are feeling the effects.”

Both APCC and local chambers of commerce and boards of trade often hear from local business leaders about the struggle with worker shortages as a growing number of talented employees head out the door to retirement – sometimes very early retirement.

“Today people turn 50 and aim for 100, and in their ‘third quarter’ they bring an emotional maturity and a strong work ethic to the workplace,” says Denyar. “We’re very pleased to be working with the Amherst and Summerside chambers in their communities to offer this program to local employers and to the growing number of people entering this exciting phase of their lives.”

The program partners have officially launched www.thirdquarter.ca, an on-line skills and networking website. The tool is designed to connect employers with people over 50 who want to reverse or delay their retirement plans. The national on-line service will be piloted to rural and small towns in 14 select communities in Atlantic Canada, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba over the next two years.

“At APCC, we have one simple overriding goal, and that is to help Atlantic Canada grow and prosper,” says Denyar. “Two of our strategic objectives, which are both designed to help us work toward that goal, are directly related to the ThirdQuarter program. One is to promote economic growth initiatives, and the second to provide service to local chambers, helping them support growth and prosperity in their communities. The ThirdQuarter program fits the bill perfectly!”

Summerside ThirdQuarter launch - Don Anderson, ThirdQuarter community coordinator in Summerside.





Atlantic
Provinces
Chambers of
Commerce

Chambres de
commerce
des provinces
de l'Atlantique

Les CCPA et les chambres de commerce locales lancent un nouveau programme passionnant pour les travailleurs expérimentés

Kentville (N.-É.) – En partenariat avec les chambres de commerce membres locales, les Chambres de commerce des provinces de l'Atlantique ont lancé un programme à Amherst, en Nouvelle-Écosse, et à Summerside, à l'Î.-P.-É., pour aider plus d'employeurs à trouver et à embaucher des travailleurs expérimentés qui ont entamé le troisième quart de leur vie.

Financé par le Bureau d'alphabétisation et des compétences essentielles du gouvernement du Canada, le programme ThirdQuarter a été créé en partie pour aider à combler les pénuries de main-d'œuvre actuelles et futures, mais également pour tirer parti des compétences, des connaissances et du talent essentiels que les personnes retraitées ou semi-retraitées ont à offrir sur le marché du travail.

« Dans l'environnement économique actuel, nous sommes sans cesse à la recherche de moyens d'aider nos entreprises locales à continuer à grandir, dit Bill Denyar, président-directeur général des CCPA. Notre pays est dans une période de forte hausse de départs à la retraite, et les entreprises de notre région en ressentent les effets. »

À la fois les CCPA et les chambres de commerce locales entendent souvent les dirigeants des entreprises locales leur parler de leurs difficultés liés aux pénuries de travailleurs, car un nombre grandissant d'employés talentueux, et parfois très jeunes, empruntent le chemin de la retraite.

« De nos jours, les gens atteignent l'âge de 50 ans et ils envisagent de vivre jusqu'à 100 ans. Et au troisième quart de leur vie, ils apportent de la maturité émotionnelle et de solides principes éthiques dans le milieu de travail, dit Bill Denyar. Nous sommes très heureux de travailler avec les chambres de commerce d'Amherst et de Summerside au sein même de leur collectivité afin d'offrir ce programme aux employeurs locaux ainsi qu'au nombre croissant de personnes entamant cette étape passionnante de leur vie. »

Les partenaires du programme ont lancé officiellement le site de compétences et de réseautage, www.thirdquarter.ca. Cet outil est conçu pour établir un lien entre les employeurs et les personnes de plus de 50 ans qui veulent réintégrer le marché du travail ou reporter à plus tard leurs projets de retraite. Ce service en ligne national sera mis à l'essai dans 14 petites villes et communautés rurales choisies du Canada atlantique, de la Colombie-Britannique, de la Saskatchewan et du Manitoba au cours des deux prochaines années.

« Aux CCPA, nous avons un but prédominant qui est simple, soit celui d'aider le Canada atlantique à grandir et à prospérer, d'expliquer Bill Denyar. Deux de nos objectifs stratégiques, qui sont tous deux conçus pour nous aider à travailler dans ce but, sont liés directement au programme ThirdQuarter. Le premier consiste à promouvoir les initiatives de croissance économique, et le second à offrir du service aux chambres locales afin de les aider à favoriser la croissance et la prospérité dans leurs collectivités. Le programme fait donc parfaitement l'affaire! »

Amherst ThirdQuarter launch (l-r) Randy Smith, Amherst & Area Chamber of Commerce president, Valerie Roy, APCC VP Chamber & Member Services and Amherst ThirdQuarter community coordinator, and Bill Denyar, APCC president & CEO.



This Month's Question:

What potential do you see for renewable energy as an economic driver for our region?

"I think the days of hoping for a new economic driver is like planning for the silver bullet of economic salvation. All of North America is hoping that renewable energy is going to be their silver bullet. Renewable energy is just another part of your economic diversification plan. Falling for the flavour of the day scenario has never helped anyone. Remember the dot-com days. Then plan for the future."

- Jim Spencer,
president, Shelburne and Area Chamber of Commerce.

"The Pictou County Chamber of Commerce sees great potential for renewable energy in this area. Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering (DSME) have taken over the former Trenton Works railcar facility and will be building wind turbines. A memorandum of agreement has been signed with Nova Scotia Power to provide them with product. The plant is expected to employ over 200 people once full production begins. This combined with the fact that there are many wind farms planned or currently operating in the county, can only add to the economic spin-off." **- Faus Johnson, executive director,**
Pictou County Chamber of Commerce.

"As the publisher of "green" renewable energy industry reports with a worldwide corporate and institutional readership of over 27,000, a great deal of energy-related information crosses my desk on a daily basis. Over the past five years, it has become abundantly clear to me that the rush to a low-carbon renewable energy economy is more an economic necessity than it is an option. Fossil fuels and high-carbon energy sources are environmentally disastrous and finite commodities; wind, solar, hydro, tidal, geothermal, and bio-energy options are non-destructive and virtually infinite. It's a 'no brainer'. The writing is on the wall and the sooner we read, and act upon it, the more growth and stability our economy will enjoy." **- Ben Wiper, president, Chester and Area Chamber of Commerce.**

Have your Say

Atlantic Canadian chamber of commerce and board of trade members weigh in on the issues of the day



Spotlight:

The Gander and Area Chamber of Commerce

The Gander and Area Chamber of Commerce (GACC) is a not-for-profit organization made up of businesses, professionals, community groups, and interested individuals. Today the organization boasts over 200 members and recently celebrated its 50th anniversary.

The chamber's mandate has been the same since its inception; to advance the area's commercial, industrial, civic, and general interests, so that all areas of the business community will prosper. To that end, GACC acts as a unified voice for local and area businesses, enabling its membership to collectively accomplish more than they might individually.

Each year a board of directors is elected by the membership. This board establishes the goals and objectives for the year and works with the members and staff to accomplish its mission.

The chamber provides information and referrals to businesses and the general public on a wide range of issues such as economic development, community activities, shopping areas, demographics, and professional services. As well, GACC lobbies municipal, provincial, and federal governments on behalf of local and area businesses.

The Gander and Area Chamber of Commerce remains proactive in seeking solutions to today's most complex economic and social problems by working together for the overall good of the community.



Gallery Chamber Business Awards



Gander and Area Chamber of Commerce

10th Annual Joe and Clarice Goodyear

Business Achievement Awards

Customer Service Award: Irving Aviation Gander - Harry Morgan

Helping Hands Award: Gander Military Family Resource Centre - Lori Isenor & Peggy Blake

Joe & Clarice Goodyear Business Achievement Award: H. Wareham & Sons Ltd. - Wayne Wareham

Business of the Year Award: McCarthy's Heating Service Ltd. - Joe McCarthy

Environmental Award: Gander International Airport Authority Inc. - Sandra Kelly

Small Business Award: Essential Coding Inc. - Scott Oldford



Lunenburg Queens

Business Excellence Awards

Small Business Award: Meisner & Zwicker Construction Ltd.

Large Business Award: Julien's Pastry Shop Ltd.

Export Achievement Award: HEKA Electronics Inc.

Entrepreneurial Award: The Nodding Group

Hospitality Award: Fleur de Sel Restaurant

New Business Award: School House Gluten-Free Gourmet



2010 Greater Summerside Chamber of Commerce

Excellence in Business Awards Recipients

Community Enhancement: Atlantic Superstore Summerside - Larry Williams & Mary Noye

New Business 2-5 Years: Maritime Rubberized Coatings - Leith & Michelle MacEwen

Entrepreneur of the Year: Krista Sommer, FitChic

Business Excellence 1-19 Employees: Apple Auto Glass

Business Excellence 20 plus Employees: City of Summerside Wind Farm Project - Mayor Basil Stewart

Employee of the Year: Jillian Wood, Simply For Life

Chamber Volunteer of the Year: Don Reid



Truro and District Chamber of Commerce

Business Awards

Exporter of the Year: Instrument Concepts

New Small Business of the Year Award: RoseDawn Helping Hands

Small Business of the Year: G & G Computers

Business Achievement Award: Margolians



Eastern Prince Edward Island Chamber of Commerce

3rd Annual Business of the Year Awards

Eastern Prince Edward Island Business of the Year: Island Tailored Meats Inc.

Honourary Business Person of the Year, 2010: Merrill Scott

Atlantic Accolades

By Stephen Patrick Clare

A bevy of business awards were given out across Atlantic Canada last month, as area chambers of commerce honoured their own with a series of gala events. Amidst the glitz and glamour, a host of established and emerging businesses picked up some well-earned hardware for their trophy cases.

"We were delighted just to have been nominated for the Small Business Week Awards," says Mark Wood of Instrument Concepts in Truro. "But we were absolutely thrilled when we actually won."

Wood admits that he was also somewhat surprised to receive the 2010 Exporter of the Year Award, given that his firm - which designs and manufactures subsea technology used for offshore engineering, ocean observation and environmental monitoring - isn't often in the public eye. "We only do business-to-business stuff. I always assumed it was retail-type companies that picked up these prizes."

While it is still a little too soon to see what impact winning the award will have on his business, Wood isn't complaining.

"A lot of people have called to congratulate us, or just to tell us that they have seen our picture in the paper," he smiles. "In a small town, this kind of thing makes you an instant celebrity."

Krista Sommer can relate. The owner of FitChic in Prince Edward Island was recently named Entrepreneur of the Year at the Greater Summerside Chamber of Commerce Excellence in Business Awards.

"People stop me in the grocery store to say hello and to offer encouragement," she shares over the phone from her office. "But I love what I do and that's reward enough for me."

Having just opened for business in late 2008, however, she is happy to ride the wave of recognition. "It's good for our business in that it's going to give us greater visibility in the community."

While some business owners appreciate the added notice, others are content to see the people behind the scenes get some long-overdue acknowledgement. Last month, FredKid - a non-profit organization that connects local families and resources in New Brunswick's Capital City - picked up the Covey Basics Community Impact honours at the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards.

"It is a real affirmation of everyone involved," says Sarah Zuidhof, who has been a board member since FredKid's inception in 2006. "We have over 100 volunteers that work on our behalf and it is wonderful to see their efforts being celebrated by the community."

Another Fredericton-based business owner believes the accolades can help to shine a better light on important issues affecting the region.

"We only use local produce from area farms in the preparation of our food," says Chris Black, whose 9 year-old restaurant, The Blue Door, won the 2010 Matthews McCrea Elliott Sustainable Leadership Award at the annual awards in Fredericton.

"And if winning this award is going to help carry the message of sustainability to other businesses across the region, then we gladly accept." Still, adds Black, he isn't about to let the acclaim go to his head.

"We don't do this for the glory," he laughs. "I mean, it's not like any of us come to work every day thinking about winning an award for doing our job. But just maybe that's the reason why it feels so much sweeter when it happens."

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Quotables Renewable Energy

Renewable energy is proven technology, the price is dropping, the rest of the world is going that way, that's where our investment should be going as well.

- Bob Brown

We need to push ourselves to make as many reductions as possible in our own energy use first...and that takes time. But we must do this quickly... the climate will not wait for us. - Rupert Murdoch

Some of our businesses use more energy than others, but our strategy everywhere is the same...first, reduce our use of energy as much as possible. Then, switch to renewable sources of power where it makes economic sense. And, over time, as a last resort, offset the emissions we can't avoid. - Rupert Murdoch

The use of solar energy has not been opened up because the oil industry does not own the sun. - Ralph Nader

Clearly, we need more incentives to quickly increase the use of wind and solar power; they will cut costs, increase our energy independence and our national security and reduce the consequences of global warming. - Hillary Rodham Clinton

To truly transform our economy, protect our security, and save our planet from the ravages of climate change, we need to ultimately make clean, renewable energy the profitable kind of energy. - Barack Obama

It is time for a sustainable energy policy which puts consumers, the environment, human health, and peace first. - Dennis Kucinich

If we truly want an innovative and creative renewable fuel industry, then it needs to be challenged. And if we create a set of protections that allow it to not be as creative and innovative as possible, then we aren't doing a service to the industry or to the people of this country. - Tom Vilsack

Because we are now running out of gas and oil, we must prepare quickly for a third change, to strict conservation and to the use of coal and permanent renewable energy sources, like solar power. - Jimmy Carter

If there is anything to be learned from history, it's that we need to face the harsh reality of fossil fuel scarcity and begin something like a Manhattan project to develop clean, economical and preferably sustainable new sources of energy.

- Stephen Sass

We have entered the post-oil era. I want to draw all the consequences of this and give a real impulse to energy savings and to the use of renewable energies.

- Dominique de Villepin

Renewable Energy **Fun Facts**

Hawaii is home to the largest wind turbine in the world. It stands 20 stories high! And its blades expand the length of a football field.

By using renewable energy sources to provide your daily energy needs we can decrease CO2 emissions with 20,000 pounds less of carbon dioxide each year, including 50 pounds of nitrogen oxide less, and 70 pounds of less sulfur dioxide omitted into our atmosphere.

Did you know 28.3 million consumers meet their energy needs through means of water as a renewable energy source?

One ton of silicon found in sand, used in photovoltaic cells, can create the equivalent amount of energy as burning 500,000 tons of coal.

Compared to a fossil fuel plant, a geothermal plant omits no nitrogen oxides, extremely little sulfur dioxide, and 1,000 – 2,000 times less carbon dioxide gases.

2,700 megawatts of electricity produced by geothermal energy sources is equivalent to the power produced by three nuclear power plants. This is enough energy to provide power to 3.5 million homes.

During 1982, in California, U.S.A., the first large solar energy plant opened.

Every hour enough sunlight reaches the earth's surface that could potentially provide the world with power for one year.

John Herschel, a British astronomer, converted solar power by using a solar collector box to cook food while on an African expedition in 1830.

In 1931, Albert Einstein collected a Nobel Prize for his work in solar and photovoltaic experimentation.

The first examples of geothermal power are the volcanoes and geysers.

In 1948, at Ohio State University in the U.S., a professor created the first geothermal heating method.

During 200 B.C., the Middle-East and China circulated water and grinded grains using windmills.

Bio-fuels are a major source of power in developing counties such as Brazil and China.

Brazil uses sugarcane converted into ethanol. China's Sichuan Province derives gases from animal dung.

The Geysers in northern California hold the largest complex of geothermal energy and its capacity can produce more than 1200 megawatts.

Iceland is mounted directly above a massive volcanic system, which provides most of its homes with heat from geothermal energy.

The technology with the most potential to reshape the world energy economy in the future may be the fuel cell.

Fuel cells are electrochemical devices that combine hydrogen and oxygen in an electrolyte fluid (a solution of ions that conducts an electric current.)

Source: Stumblorz

Top Ten

Cost-Effective Renewable Energy Systems You Can Buy

1. A solar thermal system benefits you by heating your water and pays for itself in two to three years depending on your location.
2. A solar heating system for your pool or hot tub also pays for itself in two to three years.
3. Solar photovoltaics to power your home or business, using government incentives, will reduce your monthly electricity costs significantly, in some areas. In some countries, such as Japan, solar is a viable alternative to fossil fuels. In North America, fossil fuels will continue to rise in cost and solar will continue to decline.
4. A portable solar system for an RV will cost less than a thousand dollars and provide you with power for many years.
5. Solar for remote electricity (electric fence, lights, monitoring station, etc.) are much cheaper than hooking up to the grid.
6. A remote solar photovoltaic system for your cottage or remote location can cost much less than connection to the grid.
7. A geothermal system will pay for itself in five years or less and provide you with heat energy for the lifetime of your home or business.
8. An "uninterruptable" power supply system will cover your essential electricity needs when a power outage strikes.
9. A wind energy system to power your farm, home or cottage could make your farm energy self-sufficient, in some geographical areas.
10. A micro hydro power station can provide you with limitless energy, if you have running water on your property.

Source: The Solar Guide

Why Use Renewable Energy and How it Makes a Difference

Renewable energy sources are natural to our environment causing the least amount of damage to our earth. Although the current use of these resources are not in full development and are intermittent, with newer technologies these resources can be changed into a new kind of power system to meet our power needs. Renewable energy resources can be used and can recover in short periods of time. This sustainable energy regenerates on its own and does not deplete as non-renewable energy sources do.

By being attentive to the energy sources you use for your daily needs, you can limit the amount of dangerous emissions that go into our atmosphere and preserve the environment. As such, ask members of your community and your local utility station to offer alternative pricing and possible investment programs in renewable energy sources. As well, look to save your money by finding ways to create "direct use" of natural energy savers such as, geothermal heat pumps, solar water heaters, and the passive solar daylight.

Source: Stumblorz

By the Numbers

Sources: Statscan, Nationmaster, International Energy Agency, National Energy Board, Canadian Association of Renewable Energy, Canadian Renewable Energy Alliance.

- 37:** Percentage of oil currently used for global energy needs each year.
- 25:** Percentage of coal currently used for global energy needs each year.
- 23:** Percentage of gas currently used for global energy needs each year.
- 6:** Percentage of nuclear power currently used for global energy needs each year.
- 4:** Percentage of biomass currently used for global energy needs each year.
- 3:** Percentage of hydro power currently used for global energy needs each year.
- 0.5:** Percentage of solar power currently used for global energy needs each year.
- 0.3:** Percentage of wind power currently used for global energy needs each year.
- 900,000:** Barrels of oil exported by Canada each day.
- 11:** Canada's current rank in annual global exporting of oil.
- 7:** Canada's current rank in annual global oil production.
- 9:** Canada's current rank in annual global oil consumption.
- 7:** Canada's current rank in annual global natural gas consumption.
- 14:** Canada's current rank in annual global coal consumption.
- 5:** Canada's current rank in annual global electricity consumption.
- 18:** Number of operable nuclear power plants in Canada.
- 110:** Number of wind farms in Canada.
- 2:** Number of wind farms in New Brunswick.
- 4:** Number of wind farms in Newfoundland & Labrador.
- 22:** Number of wind farms in Nova Scotia.
- 9:** Number of wind farms in Prince Edward Island.
- 10:** In millions of dollars, the cost of the first Minas Basin tidal turbine project.
- 400:** The number, in tonnes, of the turbine itself.
- 100:** The estimated number of tidal turbines installed in the Minas Basin by 2025.
- 800,000:** Homes in the Maritimes that will be powered by those turbines each year.
- 18,000:** Solar water heating systems in homes in Canada in 2008.
- 1100:** Solar water heating systems in businesses in 2008.
- 5:** Estimated percentage of Canadian energy needs met through solar power by 2025.



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The Atlantic Provinces Chambers of Commerce

Representing almost 16,000 businesses, the Atlantic Provinces Chambers of Commerce (APCC) is an alliance of more than 100 local chambers of commerce and boards of trade across Atlantic Canada. Ninety of these businesses support APCC directly through our Corporate Membership Program.

Corporate members join APCC because they want to work with us to promote growth and prosperity throughout the region. We at APCC invite you to partner with us as we build one strong voice for business in Atlantic Canada. And to ensure the voices of our corporate members are heard, our by-laws provide for seven corporate member director seats on our board of directors.

Please join us as we strive to achieve our vision to be recognized as the region's leading business organization; one that helps to create a vibrant business environment through the effective delivery of policy development and advocacy, the promotion of economic development initiatives, and member services.

For more information, please contact:

Peter Gildart

Vice President Business Development

(902) 252-7770

pgildart@apcc.ca

Wired

Upcoming Events

CHAMBER BUSINESS AWARDS

November 4: The Eastern Kings Chamber of Commerce will hold its 16th Annual EKCC Kings County Business Awards at the Old Orchard Inn, Greenwich. Guest speaker is Nathan Kroll, president & CEO of Ad-Dispatch, and the Ernst & Young and BDC Entrepreneur of the Year. For information, email executivedirector@ekcc.ca.

November 4: The Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce presents its 2010 President's Excellence Awards Ceremony at the Delta Prince Edward beginning at 6:30 p.m. For more on the event, visit www.charlottetownchamber.com.

November 18: The Digby Area Board of Trade will host the 5th Annual Business Excellence Awards at the Royal Canadian Legion, Digby, at 6:00 p.m. Guest speaker is Sean Brennan, P.Eng., project manager of the Digby Wind Farm Project. Please email Kristy@ns.sympatico.ca or DABT@tartanet.ns.ca for more information.

November 25: The Pictou County Chamber of Commerce presents its 18th Annual Achievement Awards at the deCoste Centre in Pictou. This year's guest speaker will be the Honourable John Buchanan, senator and former premier of Nova Scotia. For information, call (902) 755-3463 or email Heather.MacCulloch@pictouchamber.com.

December 8: The St. John's Board of Trade will hold its 18th Annual Business Excellence Awards and luncheon at the Delta Hotel. For more information, contact Wanda by phone at (709) 726-2961, ext. 9 or email events@bot.nf.ca.

OTHER CHAMBER EVENTS

November 4: The Mactaquac Country Chamber of Commerce will hold its MCCC Annual General Meeting and Dinner at the Riverside Resort and Conference Centre, Mactaquac. Guest speaker is Peter Lindfield, president of the New Brunswick Chamber of Commerce & chair and CEO of the Carlisle Institute. For information, contact mccc@mactaquaccountry.com or phone (506) 575-2035.

November 18: The Greater Summerside Chamber of Commerce will hold its Business Mixer & Silent Auction beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the Loyalist Lakeview Resort. For more information, please contact Joan at (902) 436-9651 or info@chamber.summerside.ca.

November 24 & 25: The Truro and District Chamber of Commerce presents the Christmas dinner theatre production "What's Love Got To Do With It?" at the Holiday Inn, Truro. Check www.trurochamber.com for details.

December 2: The Greater Summerside Chamber of Commerce will host its President's Christmas Reception from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Quality Inn. For more information, please contact Joan at (902) 436-9651 or info@chamber.summerside.ca.

*Each month, the staff
at POST scours the
internet to bring you
the most timely and
relevant resources online.*

Website of the Month:

<http://www.ecoaction.gc.ca/ecoenergy-ecoenergie/power-electricite/index-eng.cfm>

The Government of Canada's ecoENERGY for Renewable Power will invest \$1.48 billion to increase Canada's supply of clean electricity from renewable sources such as wind, biomass, low-impact hydro, geothermal, solar photovoltaic and ocean energy. It will encourage the production of 14.3 terrawatt hours of new electricity from renewable energy sources, enough electricity to power about one million homes.

What's in a Word: Renewable Energy (Wikipedia)

"Renewable energy is energy that comes from natural resources such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides, and geothermal heat, which are renewable (naturally replenished)."

Hot Links!

www.sesci.ca

www.canmetenergy-canmetenergie.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca

www.renewables.ca

www.re-energy.ca

www.canrea.ca

Blog Spot: "Most of the world's 6.9 billion people live in cities.

City dwellers consume about three quarters of the world's energy and generate most of the greenhouse gases that cause climate change. If we are to resolve some of the serious issues around pollution, climate change, human health, and energy consumption, we must look to cities for solutions."

- www.davidsuzuki.org/blogs



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