



NATIONAL ROUND TABLE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE ECONOMY
TABLE RONDE NATIONALE SUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET L'ÉCONOMIE

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National Round Table
on the Environment
and the Economy



Table ronde nationale
sur l'environnement
et l'économie



National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy



Annual Review

1994 - 1995

Members of the National Round Table

CHAIR

George Connell

MEMBERS

The Honourable Lise Bacon
Senate of Canada
(until October, 1994)

R.C.(Reg) Basken
Executive Vice-President,
The Communications, Energy and
Paperworkers Union of Canada

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

Patrick Carson
Vice-President, Environmental
Affairs,
Loblaws Companies Ltd.

Elizabeth Jane Crocker
Co-owner, P'lovers

Martin Eakins
Partner, KPMG Peat Marwick Thorne

Janine Ferretti
Executive Director,
Pollution Probe Foundation
(until December, 1994)

Diane Griffin
Executive Director,
P.E.I. Nature Trust

Sam Hamad
Vice-président,
Groupe-Conseil Roche Ltée

Arthur Hanson
President and CEO,
International Institute for
Sustainable Development

Tony Hodge
Consulting Engineer,
Victoria, B.C.

Susan Holtz
Environmental Policy Consultant,
Ferguson's Cove, N.S.

Pierre Marc Johnson
Directeur de recherche
Faculté de droit et programmes
d'études supérieures en droit,
l'Université McGill

Geraldine Kenney-Wallace
President and Vice-Chancellor,
McMaster University

Cindy Kenny-Gilday
Special Advisor,
Department of Renewable Resources,
Government of N.W.T.

Jack MacLeod
Corporate Director,
Calgary, Alberta

Elizabeth May
Executive Director,
Sierra Club of Canada

Harvey Mead
Président,
Union québécoise pour la conservation
de la nature

Karen Morgan
President, Woodnorth Holdings Inc.

Bob Page
Dean, Faculty of Environmental Design,
The University of Calgary

Stuart Smith
President, Philip Utilities
Management Corp.

The Honourable Maurice Strong
Chair, Ontario Hydro

His Honour Judge Barry Stuart
Judge, Territorial Court of the Yukon

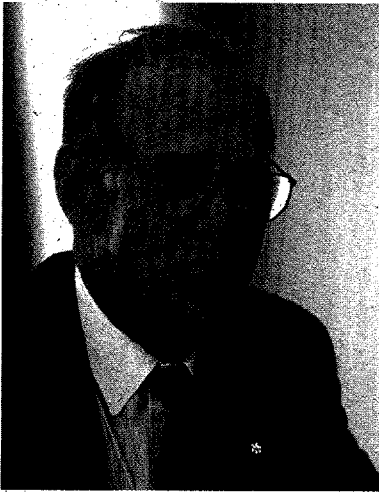
Loreen Williams
Lawyer, Harper Grey Easton

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ronald L. Doering

The National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy is an independent agency, mandated by the Parliament of Canada and reporting directly to the Prime Minister. It acts as a 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.

Letter from the Chair



Dear Prime Minister:

April, 1995

This letter to you, Prime Minister, brings to a close my service as Chair of the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy (NRTEE). It has been tremendously satisfying for me to oversee for four years the National Round Table's development and ultimate transformation into a departmental corporation. We are indebted to your government for proclaiming the *Act to Establish the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy* (Bill C-72) last year. This legislation gives the National Round Table new status as an independent agency, and the freedom and flexibility to speak and act independently. Importantly, it demonstrates the commitment of your government and the Parliament of Canada to the long-term journey that sustainable development requires.

When the NRTEE was created in 1988, sustainable development was a new concept to most Canadians. However, in recent years Canada has made significant progress toward sustainable development. New language, concepts and processes are now in use; sustainable development strategies are being created; new organizations and institutions are blossoming. Communities have put in place green and sustainable community activities; all provinces and territories have created or are creating sustainable development plans; many professional associations are undertaking sustainable development activities. Corporations such as Shell Canada, Northern Telecom and TransAlta Utilities are taking the lead in adopting more sustainable practices. Indeed, the language of sustainable development has penetrated the highest levels of government. Your government has announced the creation of a Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development and the requirement that all federal departments create sustainable development strategies. These are all laudable achievements and signs of commitment and progress toward sustainability.

We believe the National Round Table has played an integral role in bringing about this transition. Our mandate, as defined by our legislation, is to act as a catalyst to promote the principles and practices of sustainable development in all sectors of Canadian society and in all regions of Canada. Over the past several years we have fulfilled that mandate in a number of ways – through advice to you, Prime Minister, policy development with various government departments, sectoral dialogues and public awareness and education.

Obviously sustainable development cannot be achieved by one organization alone. We rely greatly on partnerships with businesses, non-government organizations, First Nations, governments, academic institutions and others to carry out our work. Looking back, our efforts over the past few years fall under five main themes: changing attitudes and beliefs, sustainable development in a global context, natural resource management, sustainable communities, and tools for sustainable development.

Changing People's Attitudes, Beliefs and Behaviour

Sustainable development requires that we fundamentally change our attitudes and behaviour in the way that we view the world and our relationship to it. The National Round Table has tried to help Canadians at all levels to understand better the connections between the environment and the economy and the importance of sustainable development. Through our education, communications, and publications programs we help give Canadians the tools and information they need to take positive steps toward sustainability.

A Global Challenge

Whatever we do in Canada, we must remember to look at our actions in a global context. We must constantly strive for global improvements while we work for progress at home. This has been the focus of our trade and foreign policy work, which has promoted sustainable development within the context of the Earth Summit, the North American Free Trade Agreement, GATT, the World Trade Organization, the Miami Summit of the Americas and, most recently, the G7 Summit. This perspective is also reflected in the National Round Table's growing international relations with other countries. We have received dozens of international delegations interested in understanding the round table process and how we are working toward sustainable development in Canada. Round tables or similar organizations now exist in many countries, including South Africa, the Philippines, the United States and Great Britain.

Canada's Natural Resources

Canada is one of the most richly endowed countries in the world. Our economy depends on harvesting our natural resources, but they must be harvested sustainably. The sustainable management of natural resources is a contentious and complex issue that affects many different stakeholders in each of our natural resource sectors. The National Round Table has focused on forestry, fisheries and agriculture. We have only just begun the learning process through our Forestry and Pulp and Paper Round Tables, Rural Renewal Task Force, and Partnership on East Coast Communities and Marine Ecosystems. However, we have learned that diverse stakeholders often share similar values and can learn to work together given the right process.

A Community of Communities

Each sustainable development issue is played out at various levels – local, regional, provincial and national. Different solutions are appropriate at each level. What we have learned is that the only way to do justice to these complex issues is to make sure that all the stakeholders are involved. While governments and legislative bodies play essential roles, they are often constrained by jurisdictional boundaries, hierarchical structures and cumbersome procedures. We need alternative, flexible and effective ways of bringing together those groups and individuals who have the experience, insight and commitment to illuminate all sides of sustainable development issues and to help to choose the pathways to just, reasonable and sustainable practices. This is where round tables have played a significant role. Over 200 round tables have emerged at the local level in recent years to fill this gap in participatory democracy. Communities have become the frontiers of change in Canada and the multitude of activity is extremely encouraging.

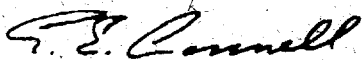
Tools for Sustainable Development

There is no question that sustainable development requires new models of decision making, new systems of measurement and assessment, and appropriate incentives and disincentives that integrate economic, environmental and social objectives. The National Round Table has worked toward developing several important sustainable development tools. Our National Task Force on Consensus Decision Making, working with provincial round tables, has published a set of guiding principles for consensus decision making. Over 20,000 copies have been distributed around the world, and the booklet has been translated into at least four languages. Our Task Force on Sustainable Development Reporting has developed a framework for a system of information gathering and reporting on progress toward sustainable development that integrates ecological health, economic indicators and human well-being. The Economic Instruments Collaborative has made concrete recommendations on how economic instruments could be used to address acid rain, ground-level ozone and greenhouse gas problems in Canada.

Difficult Choices Lie Ahead

As proud as we are of Canada's progress toward sustainable development in many different areas, nevertheless it is much too early to be complacent, Prime Minister. Despite these promising signs, in terms of real change our progress has been modest. We have done the easy part in laying the foundations for a sustainable future, but the most difficult choices lie ahead. Our current path is still unsustainable. We still need major changes in our decision making structures, institutions, public policy, economic incentives and indicators, behaviour and values if we are to bring human activity within nature's limits.

These changes are within our grasp. It is within our means to make the transition to a sustainable society, and the National Round Table has a vital role to play in this transition in years to come. It has been a great honour to be part of this unique Canadian organization over the past four years, and a tremendous learning experience. I hope that in the future the National Round Table will continue to build on what we have started, working closely with your government to build a sustainable future for all Canadians.



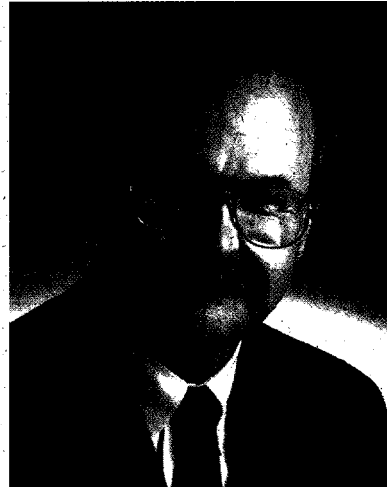
Dr. George E. Connell
Chair

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Prime Minister:

April 1995

As Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, I am pleased to submit our Annual Review for 1994-1995. The National Round Table is the only legislated body in Canada specifically mandated to be a catalyst on sustainability issues. It is uniquely positioned to bring together a broad range of competing interests to work together toward a solution beneficial to all.



In the past year, we have convened workshops, round tables, task forces and other fora to bring Canadians together to grapple with some of the most critical public policy issues of our time. We have published books, working papers, our very popular quarterly newsletter, policy reports and other materials. All of these are geared toward promoting understanding and increasing public awareness of the cultural, social, economic and policy changes required to attain sustainable development. We have also provided specific advice to you, Prime Minister, on several topics, to encourage integrating environmental and economic considerations into government decision-making processes.

Although Canada has made some progress toward sustainable development, we continue to run real economic, ecological and social deficits. We continue to mask the reality of the present by borrowing against our future. The crises we face today are the legacies of inadequate decision making of the past. We cannot continue to meet our needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs until we move to more integrated forms of decision making. Everywhere people are demanding more meaningful input into decisions that directly affect them or the place where they live. In making these decisions we will have to find ways to accommodate deeply held and differing values. Nowhere is this more evident than in coping with the complexities that issues of sustainability present.

As there is no roadmap to navigate the path to sustainability, we do our work in a spirit of learning. Learning has been described as "the accommodation of new ideas with old structures." This accommodation with the imperative of sustainability will involve fundamental changes in ways that we are only beginning to understand. Our task in the future will be to further this understanding.

As my four year term expires with the submission of this Annual Review, please allow me to recognize the outstanding dedication of the staff and members of the NRTEE and to thank you, Prime Minister, for your support during the past year. It has been an honour to serve.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ronald L. Doering". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Ronald L. Doering
Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer



National Round Table Programs and Initiatives

The National Round Table receives its mandate from the Parliament of Canada and reports directly to the Prime Minister. Its 25 members are appointed by the federal government to represent a broad range of regions and interests across Canada. Members meet as a group four times a year to determine priorities for action, review current work, initiate new programs, and promote a better understanding of the concept of sustainable development.

During the past year the National Round Table has achieved its mandate through work in 13 different program areas or task forces. The results of these efforts have taken several different forms:

- providing advice to the Prime Minister on key sustainable development policy issues;
- developing tools to advance sustainable development in government policy and other sectors;
- acting as a neutral meeting ground and facilitating a process where different stakeholder groups can work together to reach consensus on important sustainability issues;
- on-going communications and education programs that develop information and educational tools to facilitate grass-roots initiatives and to help decision makers address issues of sustainability.

After proclamation of the National Round Table Act last May, the Prime Minister appointed 10 new members and the NRTEE launched several new initiatives, including task forces on environmental industries and federal government green procurement, a partnership for sustainable coastal communities and marine ecosystems, and a transportation and climate change collaborative. These new undertakings complement ongoing programs in foreign policy, education, reporting, consensus decision making, rural renewal, and pulp and paper. A summary of the achievements in each of these areas is found on the pages that follow.

Other noteworthy events and accomplishments of the National Round Table in 1994-95 include:

- In April 1994, the NRTEE published the final report of its Forestry Round Table on Sustainable Development, a landmark achievement. Over 25 stakeholders, representing a diverse range of views in Canada's forestry debate, agreed unanimously to 26 principles for the sustainable management of Canada's forests, backed by action plans.
- In addition to advice to the Prime Minister on implementing sustainable development within the context of GATT and the World Trade Organization, the Miami Summit of the Americas, and the G7 Summit, the NRTEE also submitted advice on measures regarding the tax treatment of ecologically sensitive lands.
- Several NRTEE members played key roles in the federal Minister of Finance's Task Force on Barriers and Disincentives to Sound Environmental Practices, which made recommendations to government on ways to improve government subsidies and incentives to reflect sustainable development principles.
- The NRTEE advised several international governments on the round table process, including Britain (which has established the UK Round Table on Sustainable Development), Vietnam, Pakistan, China, and Norway's Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland.

Task Force on Foreign Policy and Sustainability

Purpose

The purpose of the Task Force on Foreign Policy and Sustainability is to promote sustainable development in Canadian foreign policy, to influence policy development within the federal government, and to advise the Prime Minister on opportunities and ways to promote sustainable development through Canada's external relations.

Achievements in 1994-95

During the past year the Task Force identified four major opportunities for advancing sustainable development in Canadian foreign policy: the GATT and World Trade Organization (WTO); Canada's foreign policy review; the Miami Summit of the Americas; and the G7 Summit.

GATT and WTO

In March 1994, the Task Force hosted a highly successful workshop in Montreal to examine the sustainable development implications of the Uruguay Round of the GATT, and the prospective WTO. The workshop brought together stakeholders from relevant constituencies to identify areas of consensus and possible points of emphasis for the Canadian government at the GATT meetings scheduled for April. Following the workshop, the Task Force drafted a letter of advice to the Minister of International Trade suggesting ways in which Canada could promote the integration of trade and environment in the new WTO.

Foreign Policy Review

The Task Force also promoted sustainable development as part of the federal government's review of Canada's foreign policy. It studied how the principles of sustainable development could serve as an integrating theme for Canada's foreign policy in the coming years and made a submission to the Special Joint Committee on Foreign Policy during its hearings in the summer of 1994. The Committee's subsequent report contained a chapter on sustainable development and generously endorsed some key passages from the NRTEE's submission. The federal government's new foreign policy statement, released in February 1995, included sustainable development as one of its underlying themes.

Miami Summit of the Americas

During the past year the Task Force submitted advice to the Prime Minister regarding two major international meetings: the Summit of the Americas held in Miami in December 1994, and the G7 Summit, scheduled for Halifax later this year.

Sustainable development, along with market integration and democratization, was a core agenda theme at the Miami Summit. To prepare its advice, the Task Force co-sponsored three multistakeholder workshops in Ottawa, Washington and Mexico City during the summer and fall of 1994 in order to meet with government officials, discuss sustainability issues in the hemisphere, and hear the views of Caribbean, Central and South American groups. In November, it submitted its recommendations to the Prime Minister on issues such as trade, biodiversity and conservation, energy and climate change, and indigenous peoples. Although not all of the Task Force's recommendations were adopted, they did alert the Canadian government to the sustainable development issues at stake in Miami, some of which were reflected in the Summit's final communiqué.

G7 Summit

In December, the Task Force turned its attention to the upcoming G7 summit. A background document was prepared that was considered by key stakeholders from Canada, the United States, and other G7 countries at a workshop in Montreal in February 1995. Participants heard presentations and discussed issues related to sustainable development and the reform of international institutions. Following the workshop, the Task Force drafted a memorandum of advice which was approved by the National Round Table and sent to the Prime Minister in late March. The workshop proceedings have been published as *The Halifax Summit, Sustainable Development and International Institutional Reform*.

Future Directions

The Task Force will continue to promote its G7 Summit recommendations among decision makers pending a review of its future role by the members of the NRTEE.

Task Force Members

Chair: Pierre Marc Johnson, NRTEE Member

Susan Holtz, NRTEE Member

Harvey Mead, NRTEE Member

Bob Page, NRTEE Member

Maurice Strong, NRTEE Member

John Kirton, University of Toronto

Resource People

François Bregha, Resources Future International

Stephanie Foster, Ontario Hydro

Brigitte Gagné, Salmon Arm, B.C.

Mel Wilson, Coopers and Lybrand

NRTEE Secretariat

Sarah Richardson



Pulp and Paper Round Table

Purpose

Early in 1993, the National Round Table brought together a group of 25 national stakeholder groups concerned with the Canadian pulp and paper sector to discuss issues associated with the sustainable production of pulp and paper. Despite widely differing perspectives and values, participants agreed to work together to reach consensus on a set of principles to guide the sustainable production, consumption, disposal or re-use of pulp and paper, as well as to develop specific action plans based on these principles.

Achievements in 1994-95

Members of the Pulp and Paper Round Table have met several times over the past two years, working toward consensus on a set of principles. The NRTEE acted as catalyst and facilitator for the discussions, under the leadership of John Houghton, Chairman of QUNO Corp., former member of the NRTEE and chair of its Forestry Round Table. Last summer, at a Quebec City meeting, Pulp and Paper Round Table participants reviewed and formalized a draft set of principles on the sustainable production of pulp and paper in Canada. While some indicated that their final agreement to the draft principles was already assured, others requested time to consult with and seek approval from their various constituents. After many meetings and much hard work, the Round Table held its eighth and final meeting in Ottawa in January 1995. At that time, all representatives at the table unanimously approved a set of 18 principles covering such issues as anthropogenic organic chemicals, closed-loop technologies, and codes of practice. This agreement was published by the National Round Table in May 1995, as NRTEE Working Paper 29.

Future Directions

Many of the participants are now developing action plans that support the principles. They will be published as part of the National Round Table's final report in the fall of 1995.

Pulp and Paper Round Table Members

David Barron, Canadian Pulp and Paper Association
Harry Bombay, National Aboriginal Forestry Association
Anne Camozzi, Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication
Hugh Cook, Environment Canada
Claire Dansereau, Richmond, B.C.
Rocco Delvecchio, Industry Canada
André Duchesne, Association des industries forestières du Québec
François Guimont, Environment Canada
Mayor David Hamilton, City of Thunder Bay.
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
John Hanson, Recycling Council of Ontario
Ann Hillyer, West Coast Environmental Law Association
John Houghton, QUNO Corp.
Doug Hyde, Chelsea, Québec
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, NRTEE member
Paul Muldoon, Canadian Environmental Law Association
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
Peter Toft, Health Canada
Wayne B. Wolfe, Irving Forest Services
Peter Wrist, Pulp and Paper Research Institute of Canada

NRTEE Secretariat

Steve Thompson
Allison Webb (until October, 1994)
Sarah Shadforth

Education Task Force

Purpose

The goals of the Education Task Force are to facilitate an understanding of sustainable development and consensus decision making among key sectors of Canadian society. It addresses both formal and informal education through its work with youth, educators, academic institutions, media and other sectors.

Achievements in 1994-95

In the past year, the Education Task Force undertook a wide array of initiatives involving the media, academic institutions, municipal decision makers, and youth. As an overarching theme for its work, it supported the development and feasibility study of a national sustainable development social marketing strategy called SustainABILITY, in partnership with ParticipACTION.

The Task Force continued to conduct its ever-popular youth round tables which, during the past year, involved more than 1,500 students from across Canada. The Task Force joined with Learning for a Sustainable Future, ÉRÉ Education, and Health Canada to develop a *Canadian Youth Action Guide for Agenda 21*. The guide was developed and written by youth through a series of cross-Canada focus groups with high school students. The guide allows young people, parents and educators to voice their views on Agenda 21, and offers ways to take stock of the situation, to look for solutions, and to take community action.

The National Round Table held a focus group with media representatives in Toronto in February 1995. Its purpose was to increase the NRTEE's understanding of how and what the media want or need to learn about sustainable development, to promote the role of the NRTEE in communicating sustainable development initiatives and perspectives, and to explore ways to raise sustainable development awareness among the Canadian media as well as the general public.

In March 1995, the Task Force hosted a workshop to discuss interdisciplinary research and education on sustainability at the post-secondary level. It was attended by 22 university presidents and vice-presidents from across Canada. Many new and

innovative ideas for advancing sustainable development at post-secondary institutions were identified and a background report will be prepared for public distribution. The Task Force also commissioned a background paper on community-based social marketing, an approach to changing individual attitudes and values that can lead to behaviour change. Carried out at the local level, it has become an effective tool for introducing sustainable development programs. In addition, the Task Force co-sponsored, along with the Association of Municipal Recycling Coordinators (AMRC) and the Ontario Ministry of Environment and Energy, a pilot workshop held in Toronto in March 1995. The event introduced community-based social marketing to more than 75 municipal decision makers from across Ontario. Feedback from participants was very positive. Task Force members also met with representatives of the Environmental Centre for New Canadians to explore some of the barriers to the involvement of new Canadians in environmental issues.

Future Directions

The Education Task Force plans to co-sponsor additional workshops on community-based social marketing in other parts of the country. An evaluation of the youth model round table process will be conducted in order to assess its impact and to help develop a training package for teachers and educators. The Task Force will also explore the possibility of conducting workshops on environmental management for small business in cooperation with the Retail Council of Canada and the Canadian Federation of Independent Business.

Task Force Members
Chair: Elizabeth Crocker, NRTEE Member
Jack MacLeod, NRTEE Member
Allan Bruce, NRTEE Member
Lori Williams, NRTEE Member

NRTEE Secretariat
Carla Doucet



Task Force on Sustainable Development Reporting

Purpose

The mandate of the NRTEE's Task Force on Sustainable Development Reporting is to address Canada's need for a system of measuring and reporting the country's progress toward achieving sustainable development.

Achievements in 1994-95

Following the December 1993 release of its report to the Prime Minister, *Toward Reporting Progress on Sustainable Development in Canada*, the Task Force contacted various federal government departments to press for implementation of its recommendations. One of the report's key recommendations was to establish an office of a commissioner for sustainable development, which the federal government announced in October 1994.

The Task Force also continued to provide a forum for discussing critical issues in sustainability reporting. In March 1995, it joined with the Westminster Institute for Ethics and Human Values to host a colloquium on assessing human well-being within the context of sustainable development. The colloquium, which took place in London, Ontario, brought together learned academics from various fields (including medicine, philosophy, psychology, economics and ecology) to meet with representatives of key federal government agencies involved in sustainability reporting including the Auditor General, Environment Canada and Statistics Canada.

The Task Force also produced a book on sustainable development reporting. *Pathways to Sustainability: Assessing our Progress* combines the substance of the Task Force's 1993 colloquium on sustainability reporting, a reprint of the report to the Prime Minister as well as a ground-breaking case study on assessing progress toward sustainability in the Great Lakes Basin. The book will be released in May 1995.

Task Force members met with Natural Resources Canada staff to discuss ways to collaborate on the assessment of energy production and use in Canada. The Task Force also began work with the Canadian Coalition of Education Organizations to develop a framework to allow educational institutions to assess their progress toward sustainability. Links were also established with the newly created President's Council on Sustainable Development in the United States, and the U.S. government's Interagency Working Group on Sustainable Development Indicators.

Future Directions

Pending a review of its mandate, the Task Force will continue to press for implementation of its recommendations to the federal government on reporting on sustainable development and to support and work with other agencies to improve sustainability monitoring and reporting.

Task Force Members

Chair: Tony Hodge, NRTEE Member
Susan Holtz, NRTEE Member
Elizabeth Crocker, NRTEE Member
Marty Eakins, NRTEE Member
Pierre Gosselin, Ste-Foy, Québec

Resource People

François Bregha, Resources Future International
Paul West, University of Victoria

NRTEE Secretariat

Jane Inch

Task Force on Consensus Decision Making

Purpose

The purpose of this Task Force is to promote the understanding and use of consensus decision making principles and methods as a means of achieving sustainable development. It was established by the NRTEE in 1991.

Achievements in 1994-95

Following the success of its 1993 publication *Building Consensus for a Sustainable Future: Guiding Principles* (more than 20,000 copies distributed), the Task Force began producing a book of case studies in consensus decision making that expand on the principles set out in *Building Consensus*. This new book, which is in the final editing stages, will highlight experiences from across Canada and describe how the principles of consensus decision making can be practically applied in many different conflict situations. Currently no other book introduces the concepts of consensus decision making in a similar, practical manner that is accessible to a wide audience.

Future Directions

The future activities of the Task Force will be established following a review of its mandate by the members of the NRTEE.

Task Force Members

Co-Chair: Barry Stuart, NRTEE Member
Co-Chair: Reg Basken, NRTEE Member
Jerry Cormick, Mill Creek, Washington, U.S.A.
D'Arcy Delamere, Royal Bank of Canada
Paul Emond, Toronto, Ontario
Jane Hawkrigg, Oakville, Ontario
Glenn Sigurdson, Vancouver, B.C.
Leslie Whitby, Industry Canada

NRTEE Secretariat

Steve Thompson
Allison Webb (until October 1994)

“Building a sustainable future requires processes that reconcile competing interests, forge new cooperative partnerships, and explore innovative solutions.”

*Building Consensus for a Sustainable Future:
Guiding Principles*



Task Force on Rural Renewal

Purpose

The Task Force on Rural Renewal was established in 1992 following a series of workshops that examined the opportunities for, and barriers to, economic and ecological renewal in rural Canada. Since then, the Task Force has initiated or supported a variety of projects that aim to address some of the unique sustainability challenges facing rural communities.

Achievements in 1994-95

As part of its ongoing efforts to ensure broad participation in rural development issues, the Task Force joined with the Interdepartmental Committee on Rural and Remote Canada to encourage a broad mix of stakeholder groups to attend conferences on rural renewal. It supported groups from Nova Scotia, Alberta and British Columbia in developing an introductory presentation "module" on sustainable development which was subsequently used at various rural conferences.

The Task Force also created a new Internet discussion group called RURCAN-L to link rural institutions, groups and individuals together via their personal computers. This service went on-line from the University of Alberta in early 1995. As well, a series of presentations were made to the banking and credit union communities on lending for rural environmental projects. Finally, the Task Force worked with provincial and regional agricultural organizations in British Columbia, Quebec, and the Atlantic provinces to help fund the publication of farm environmental management handbooks tailored to the specific needs of these regions.

Future Directions

Planning is underway for a joint round table meeting with the Canadian Bankers Association's Agriculture and Environment members to explore bank lending practices which might encourage sustainable development.

Task Force Members

Chair: Diane Criffin, NRTEE Member
Hon. Carol Carson, Minister of Municipal Government,
Saskatchewan
Hon. J. Glen Cummings, Minister of Environment,
Manitoba
Jim Patterson, Ducks Unlimited

Bob Sopuck, Manitoba Round Table on the Environment and the Economy

Resource People

Julie Gelfand, Canadian Nature Federation
Ken Cox, North American Wetlands Conservation Council

NRTEE Secretariat

Steve Thompson

BIODIVERSITY IN NORTH AMERICA

In early 1994, the National Round Table and the Canadian Museum of Nature joined a Mexican organization, the Fundacion Mexicana para la Educacion Ambiental (FUNDEA), and the World Resources Institute in Washington, D.C. to organize a series of workshops focusing on biodiversity in North America.

The first workshop took place in Mexico City in March 1994, attended by biodiversity experts, government officials, and non-governmental organization representatives from Mexico, the United States and Canada, as well as NRTEE members. Discussions centred on identifying the forces affecting continental biodiversity in general and the relevant trade, social and economic instruments to promote biodiversity in North America.

Since then, planning has been underway for a second workshop scheduled for Ottawa in June 1995. The Ottawa meeting will focus on comparing and analyzing the national steps taken to support biodiversity and their impacts in all three North American countries. International linkages, and coordination and harmonization of economic instruments supporting biodiversity, will also be discussed.

Following the Ottawa workshop, a report will be written and recommendations brought forward to be considered by governments and other stakeholders.

Projet de société: Planning for a Sustainable Future

Purpose

The *Projet de société* is a multistakeholder partnership of government, First Nation, business and non-governmental representatives interested in promoting Canada's transition to a sustainable future. Through its National Stakeholders Assemblies, it provides a forum for integrating different sectors and perspectives through consensus building and partnerships, recognizing that sustainable development is a collective responsibility of all Canadians.

Established in November 1992 as a follow-up to the Earth Summit, the *Projet* has focused on three main activities: a report on Canadian responses to Agenda 21 and the Rio Conventions, the development of a framework for a national sustainable development strategy, and practical actions to advance progress toward sustainability in Canada.

Achievements during 1994-95

At the *Projet's* Third National Stakeholders Assembly in late 1993, the NRTEE was asked to assume a larger role in the *Projet* and subsequently agreed to focus on facilitating the development of a national sustainable development strategy (NSDS). This work began in earnest during the spring of 1994 and continued through the summer. It involved three meetings of the *Projet's* Working Group, whose members also participated in a fall workshop designed to focus attention on some of the tools or transition strategies needed to overcome barriers to sustainable development.

The *Projet's* Fourth National Stakeholders Assembly was held in November 1994. It brought together more than 120 people from across the country to review the progress made since the previous Assembly, determine future directions, and provide stakeholders with an opportunity to share information and discuss the challenges Canada faces in attaining sustainability. Stakeholders were also asked to review the draft NSDS framework, *Canadian Choices for Transitions to Sustainability*.

Many concerns were expressed about the document but there was general agreement on the need to redefine its "choicework" section, which illustrates options and specific actions that could be undertaken to make sustainability a reality in Canada, and on the need for a more strategic focus and a clearer national orientation. Based on these and other discussions, the document was revised and reprinted in January 1995 for further discussion. The NRTEE subsequently sponsored a series of meetings across the country designed to determine how useful the document might be in engaging various constituencies to forge their own transitions to sustainability and to contribute to a national strategy. A final draft is being prepared for release in May 1995.

Future Directions

A new Working Group was convened in February 1995 to oversee the continuation of other activities of the *Projet*. It defined a work plan that focuses on three key areas: expanding communication and linkages, educating and engaging a wider audience in the issues surrounding sustainability, and exploring ways to get sustainable development integrated into the Canadian political agenda. A fifth National Stakeholders Assembly is planned for the fall of 1995.

Contingent on the NRTEE's review of its involvement with the *Projet*, staff members will explore the potential of the draft NSDS framework to act as an integrating mechanism for sustainable development strategies at all levels in Canada. They will also form links with agencies working on strategies at the international level, including the U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development, the International Network of Green Planners, the U.S. President's Commission on Sustainable Development, the Earth Council and the World Conservation Union.

Projet de société: Planning for a Sustainable Future

Projet de société Working Group Members

Chair: Ron Doering, NRTEE
Jeanne Andrews, Environment Canada *
Jean Arnold, Fallsbrook Centre
Garth Bangay, Environment Canada •
Mia Benjamin-Robinson, Forum for Sustainability *
David Bennett, Canadian Labour Congress •
Keith Bevanon, International Development Research Centre (IDRC) •
Lynn Broughton, Forum for Sustainability
Theodora Carroll-Foster, IDRC
Gordon Clifford, Consulting and Audit Canada •
George Connell, NRTEE •
Heather Creëch, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)
Anne Cronin-Cossette, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade •
Jessie Davies, University of New Brunswick
John Dillon, Business Council on National Issues •
Charles Ferguson, INCO •
Janine Ferretti, Pollution Probe •
Sheila Forsyth, National Agricultural Environment Committee *
Gary Gallon, Canadian Environment Industry Association •
Georgé Green, Canadian International Development Agency •
Arthur Hanson, IISD and NRTEE Member •
George Kowalski, Environment Canada •
Martin Janowitz, Clean Nova Scotia Foundation *
Shirley Lewchuck, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
David MacDonald, United Nations Association of Canada •
Elizabeth May, Sierra Club of Canada and NRTEE Member
Sheldon McLeod, Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment •
Beatrice Olivastri, Consultant •
Peter Padbury, Canadian Council for International Cooperation •
Chester Reimer, Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC) •
Sarah Richardson, NRTEE •
Barry Sadler, Consultant •
Ann-Marie Sahagian, Environment Canada
Sandy Scott, NRTEE
Dana Silk, NRTEE
Mary Simon, ICC •
Robert Slater, Environment Canada •
Judith Swan, Oceans Institute of Canada
Susan Tanner, Friends of the Earth •
Kathy Thompson, Federation of Canadian Municipalities

Bert Weichel, Saskatchewan Waste Reduction
Jean Wong, Health Canada *
Miriam Wyman, Women and Sustainability Networks
• until December 1994
* since January 1995

Other Participating NRTEE Members

Susan Holtz *
Jack MacLeod
Karen Morgan
Bob Page

NRTEE Secretariat

Sandy Scott
Dana Silk

“By sketching the broad national picture the Projet de société hopes to encourage communities and sectors in Canada to see how they fit into the larger picture and to engage them in assuming their share of the challenge.”

Canadian Choices for Transitions to Sustainability

Partnership for Sustainable Coastal Communities and Marine Ecosystems

Purpose

In late 1994 in the wake of the collapse of the East Coast cod fishery, the National Round Table joined forces with the Newfoundland and Labrador Round Table to launch a Partnership for Sustainable Coastal Communities and Marine Ecosystems. The purpose of this new joint initiative is fourfold:

- to establish a dialogue with fishery-dependent coastal communities in Newfoundland and Labrador on the future sustainability of these communities;
- to identify why these communities were sustainable in the past, what made them unsustainable, and how they can become sustainable again;
- to provide a unique opportunity for the people directly affected to make their views known on the future of the fishery and their own communities; and
- to develop recommendations to avoid a similar fishery collapse in other regions of Canada.

Achievements in 1994-95

A Task Force of members of the National and Newfoundland Round Tables as well as community representatives was formed in late 1994. During the winter and spring of 1995, the Task Force conducted a series of formal and informal meetings in more than a dozen fishing communities across Newfoundland to solicit the opinions, ideas and experiences of a broad mix of local residents.

Future Directions

The Partnership's final session will take place in St. John's, Newfoundland in June 1995. Following this, it will draft and submit advice to the Prime Minister as well as to the Premier of Newfoundland on the future sustainability of Newfoundland's fishing communities that reflects grass-roots perceptions and opinions in these communities. It will also issue a final report for public distribution that summarizes these perspectives, identifies the historic causes of unsustainability, and outlines current barriers to a sustainable fishery and recommendations to foster one in the future.

Partnership Members

Chair: Bernadette Dwyer, Fogo Island Co-op, Newfoundland
Diane Griffin, NRTEE Member
Elizabeth May, NRTEE Member
Wilfred Bartlett, Brighton, Newfoundland
Tom Best, Pettij Harbour Fisherman's Cooperative
Mary O'Brien, Newfoundland and Labrador Round Table
Martin von Mirbach, Newfoundland and Labrador Round Table

NRTEE Secretariat

Steve Thompson

"We have the capacity and ability to create a remarkably different economy, one that can restore ecosystems and protect the environment, while bringing forth innovation, prosperity, meaningful work and true security."

Paul Hawken, The Ecology of Commerce



Collaborative on Transportation and Climate Change

Purpose

In the summer of 1994, the NRTEE assisted the Ontario Round Table in establishing a multi-stakeholder Collaborative on Transportation and Climate Change. The purpose of the Collaborative is to develop a voluntary, implementable strategy to reduce carbon dioxide emissions in Ontario's transportation sector that takes economic, social and environmental perspectives into account. The Collaborative will seek to build on the National Action Plan on Climate Change, with its emphasis on voluntary initiatives by industry, to stabilize carbon dioxide emissions:

The NRTEE chose to support this initiative in Ontario because of its large population and industrial concentration. Progress in stabilizing emissions in Ontario is critical to any national climate change strategy. Strategies developed and lessons learned in Ontario may be transferable to other regions.

Achievements in 1994-95

During the fall of 1994, senior representatives from a cross section of the transportation sector were invited to participate in the Collaborative, representing major automakers, railways, trucking firms, transit authorities, labour unions, municipalities, and NGOs. Deputy ministers from key provincial government ministries including Transportation, Environment and Energy, and Housing and Energy were invited as observers. The first meeting of the Collaborative took place in January 1995. A smaller designated Policy Group was established to oversee a series of background studies.

Future Directions

Over the coming months, the Policy Group will analyze the results of the background studies and develop specific action plans to be submitted to the Collaborative for final approval. It is hoped that final consensus on a carbon dioxide reduction strategy will be reached by autumn 1995.

Collaborative Membership

Chair: Jon Grant, Chair, ORTEE, and Corporate Director, Quaker Oats Company

Vice-Chair: Anne Whyte, Director-General, International Development Research Centre

Richard Baker, President & CEO, Canada Transport International Ltd.

John Bergsma, President & CEO, Union Gas

Jim Bruce, Chair, Canadian Climate Program

Patty Chilton, Executive Coordinator, Pollution Probe

Louise Comeau, Campaign Director, Sierra Club of Canada

Al Cormier, Executive Director, Ontario Urban Transit Association

David Crombie, Commissioner, Waterfront Regeneration Trust
Terry Daynard, Executive Vice-President, Ontario Corn Producer's Association

Don Dewees, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science, University of Toronto

Richard Ducharme, Managing Director, GO Transit

John Fleming, City Administrator, City of London

John Fox, Executive Vice-President, Ontario Hydro

Emmett Grant, President, Cooper Automotive

"Buzz" Hargrove, President, Canadian Auto Workers

Howard Hawkins, President, Navistar International

Michael Hough, Principal, Hough Stanebury Woodland Naylor Dance

Neal Irwin, Managing Director, IDI Group

Colin Isaacs, Contemporary Information Analysis

John Livey, Commissioner of Planning, Regional Municipality of York

Harvey Mead, President, Union québécoise pour la conservation de la nature, NRTEE Member

Bryan Monkhouse, Vice-President, Strategic Business Development, Sunoco Inc.

Ronald Munkley, President & CEO, Consumers Gas

Norman Pellerin, Assistant Vice-President (Environment), CN Rail

David Runnalls, President, Runnalls Research Associates Inc.

Richard Soberman, Chair, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Toronto

Bob Stephen, Owner, Agincourt Infiniti / Nissan Ltd.

Tayce Wakefield, Vice-President Corporate Affairs, GM Canada

John Wallace, President & CEO, Ontario Northland Railway

NRTEE Secretariat

Jane Inch

Task Force on Green Procurement

Purpose

At its October 1994 plenary, NRTEE members launched a new Task Force to promote "green" procurement by the federal government. This reflects the recognition that adopting environmentally sound procurement practices in public and private sector organizations is a major determinant of better environmental protection and more sustainable economic development. Because of its substantial purchasing power, the federal government can exert profound influences on the markets for all goods and services and can serve as an important model for other levels of government as well as private industry.

Achievements in 1994-95

The first meeting of the Task Force was held in Ottawa in January 1995. Because current criteria for green procurement, where they exist at all, are often inadequate or misleading, the Task Force commissioned a study to consolidate and synthesize current knowledge on green procurement criteria with the aim to develop new criteria that can be applied in a comprehensive, but simple manner, to all products and services purchased by the federal government. It also agreed to co-sponsor the first national conference of the Canadian Environment Industry Association that took place in Ottawa in late March.

Future Directions

After completing the study on procurement criteria, the Task Force plans to produce case studies of successful green procurement practices that are consistent with the new criteria and guidelines. This will fulfill an important educational function by providing models for others to follow. Efforts will also be made to collaborate with various federal departments and agencies to draft a formal green procurement guide to be used as a standard reference. In addition, the Task Force will join with Environment Canada, Treasury Board and other federal departments to develop a reporting framework on progress toward green procurement in the federal government.

A national forum on green procurement is planned for early 1996. It will bring together purchasers and procurement policy makers in the federal government with suppliers to build on earlier initiatives as well as address other barriers to green procurement. Successful practices and green products and services sold to the federal government will be recognized and showcased during the forum.

Task Force Members

Chair: Marty Eakins, NRTEE Member

Patrick Carson, NRTEE Member

Elizabeth Crocker, NRTEE Member

David Anderson, Assistant CEO, Environmental Council of Alberta

Robert Bickerdike, Environment Division, Bell Canada

Colin Isaacs, Environmental Program Consultant,

Contemporary Information Analysis Ltd.

Sheldon Levitt, Quadrangle Architects Ltd.

Bob Slattery, Purchasing Consultant

Laura Talbot-Allan, Assistant Deputy Minister,

Corporate Services, Environment Canada

NRTEE Secretariat

Gene Nyberg



Task Force on Environmental Technologies

Purpose

NRTEE members created a Task Force on Environmental Technologies at their October 1994 plenary meeting. Its purpose is to promote the growth of the Canadian environmental industry as a key step in Canada's progress toward sustainable development. It will do so by helping targeted client industries or sectors become more environmentally sustainable by more effectively using the technology and expertise of firms in the Canadian environmental industry.

The demand for environmental technologies suffers because of an inadequate commitment to sustainable development on the part of many industries and a lack of information in the marketplace. Through a series of multistakeholder dialogues, the Task Force will attempt to resolve these problems by bringing together representatives from industries that are currently moving to more environmentally sustainable practices with the appropriate firms in the Canadian environmental industry, the financial community, consumers, and government agencies involved in funding and regulatory activities.

Achievements in 1994-95

At its first meeting in February, 1995, the Task Force identified four potential sectors to assess initially: municipal water supply and treatment, electric utilities, pulp and paper, and mining. It subsequently joined with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and Industry Canada to organize a series of interactive workshops that were held in six cities across Canada in April 1995. They brought together Canadian environmental companies, financial investors and municipal decision makers to explore and promote potential partnerships for the design, construction and maintenance of municipal environmental infrastructure. The workshops were intended as a catalyst to enlarge the domestic market for Canadian technology and expertise in these areas.

Future Directions

In the coming year, the Task Force intends to follow up on the workshops with a series of round table meetings bringing together stakeholders from the municipal environmental sector. Similar round tables will also be undertaken for the electric utilities sector after a feasibility study has been completed.

Task Force Members

Chair: Sam Hamad, NRTEE Member

Stuart Smith, NRTEE Member

Ray Brouzes, Vice-President Scientific Affairs, EnviroCapital

Joe Lukacs, President & CEO, Canadian Environmental Technology Advancement Corporation (West)

Laurie Macdonald, Director of Professional Affairs,

Canadian Council of Professional Engineers

Bob Slater, Assistant Deputy Minister, Environmental Conservation, Environment Canada

NRTEE Secretariat

Gene Nyberg

LEAD Canada

Purpose

LEAD (Leadership for Environment and Development) is an international program for promising individuals from countries around the world designed to further their understanding of, and ability to deal with, issues and choices related to sustainable development.

LEAD International currently has over 400 associates and faculty members in Brazil, Canada, China, the Commonwealth of Independent States, India, Mexico and Nigeria. They are accepted into the program for two years. *LEAD* is jointly sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation and Canada's International Development Research Centre. In Canada, *LEAD* is administered through the NRTEE.

Achievements in 1994-95

Last summer was the inaugural session for *LEAD* Canada when the first 15 associates entered the program. Their backgrounds were varied – the group included a federal government policy analyst, public health physician, newspaper editorial writer, and a public transit official – but all shared a common interest in developing a better understanding of sustainability.

Each associate completed a research paper on a specific topic before attending the first residential session, held at Ottawa's Carleton University in the summer of 1994. The two-week session included seminars, workshops and guest lectures by leading experts, role play and round table exercises, and several field trips.

In October, six of the Canadian associates joined their counterparts from other *LEAD* countries at a *LEAD* International conference held in Costa Rica. They participated in a full program of presentations, workshops and field trips dealing with Costa Rica's natural resources, economy, energy, agriculture, economic and environmental debt, tourism, and socio-political history. The Canadians also met with Costa Rican President José María Figüeres.

Over the course of the winter, associates carried out a variety of sustainable development projects from their respective workplaces. Research topics

ranged from developing a course on sustainability for senior federal public servants, to the North American Commission on Environmental Cooperation, to changing the decision-making process in the Ontario municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth.

Future Directions

A new class of *LEAD* associates will join the program in the spring of 1995. The first residential session is scheduled for the summer in Ottawa, during which they will team up with the second-year participants to carry out an ecoregion study in Ontario's Prince Edward County. *LEAD*'s next international session is planned for September 1995 in Thailand.

LEAD Canada Participants

National Program Director: Ronald Doering, NRTEE

1994-95 Associates:

Mark Bekkering, Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth

Jane Dougan, University of Guelph

Keith Halliday, Canadian Mission to the European Union

Natasha Hassan, The Financial Post

Jim Houston, International Joint Commission

Louise Laliberte, National Caucus Liberal Research Bureau

Suzie Lemyre, Public Works and Government Services Canada

Brigitte Léptine, La Confiserie Comète de St-Hyacinthe

Susan Létt, Sherwood Park, Alberta

Dr. David McKeown, City of Toronto

Jacinthe Séguin, Environment Canada


Brian T. Smith, Metro Transit (Halifax-Dartmouth)

Paul Thoppil, Treasury Board of Canada

Robert Wright, Owens, Wright Barristers and Solicitors

NRTEE Secretariat

Steve Thompson



Communications and Publications

Purpose

The communications unit of the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy promotes and disseminates information on the work of the National Round Table, the round table process, consensus decision making, and sustainable development.

Achievements in 1994-95

Each year, demand for the National Round Table's publications has grown by leaps and bounds. The past year was no exception. More than 29,000 copies of NRTEE publications were distributed in direct response to mail, phone, fax and e-mail requests, originating from every province and territory in Canada, as well as the United States, Europe and many other points around the globe.

Bestsellers

Three of the National Round Table's publications emerged as "bestsellers":

Building Consensus for a Sustainable Future: Guiding Principles – More than 20,000 copies of this booklet have been distributed to federal, provincial and local government departments, universities, professional institutes, native groups, corporations and individuals from across Canada as well as the United States, Mexico, various European countries, Australia, South Africa and Nigeria.

Toward Sustainable Communities – More than 12,000 copies are now circulating and a third printing is planned of this popular book by Mark Roseland. Copies were sent to groups such as the city councils of Halifax and Houston, Texas, municipal and regional planning bodies throughout North America, transit services, citizens groups, the Foundation for Sustainable Development (Manila, Philippines), the Global Cities Project (San Francisco), and the National League of Cities (Washington).

Covering the Environment: A Handbook for Environmental Journalism – This handbook by Michael Keating has attracted a large and varied readership that includes journalists across the country, the Canadian University Press, CBC, Radio-Canada, the Canadian Science Writers Association and journalists and educators in Brazil, Cuba, Malaysia and Indonesia.

Recent Publications

During the past year, the National Round Table released several new publications, reports and working papers.

- *Local Round Tables: Realizing Their Full Potential*
- *Advancing Sustainable Development at the Summit of the Americas: Volume I*
- *Projet de société: Canadian Choices For Transitions To Sustainability*
- *Working Paper 20: Linking Land Titles/Registry Systems in Canada to Land-Related Environmental Information*
- *Working Paper 25: Sustainable Development as a Focus for Canada's Foreign Policy*
- *Working Paper 26: Sustainable Development and Academic Institutions: Issues in Interdisciplinary Learning*
- *Working Paper 27: Exploring Barriers to Sound Environmental Practices*
- *Working Paper 28: Environmental Taxation, Revenues, and Effectiveness: The Need for Principled Guidance*
- *Working Paper 29: Principles for the Sustainable Production of Pulp and Paper Products*
- *Working Paper 30: After Rio: The Question of International Institutional Reform*
- *Pathways to Sustainability: Assessing our Progress*

The NRTEE also assisted the Rural and Small Towns program of Mount Allison University in publishing a new resource kit on community sustainable development entitled *Stepping Forward: Discovering Community Potential, Acting on Challenges*.

The NRT Review

Three issues of the *National Round Table Review* were produced during the past year and each was read by an average of 60,000 readers. The spring 1994 issue, *Sustainable Communities*, dealt with sustainable communities initiatives in Canada and abroad. The fall 1994 issue had as its theme *Canada and Sustainable Development: Progress or Postponement?* Expert opinions were solicited on Canada's current progress toward sustainable development and what remains to be done. The winter 1995 issue, *Evaluating Round Table Processes*, took a critical look at multistakeholder processes.

Address by Paul Hawken

In March, 1995, the NRTEE hosted an evening in Ottawa with sustainability advocate Paul Hawken. Over 200 representatives from the federal government, business, local municipalities, and NGOs came to hear the bestselling author of *The Ecology of Commerce*. In an address entitled "Natural Capitalism: The Next Industrial Revolution," Hawken outlined his visionary ideas for a restorative economy. The event was also filmed by the Canadian Parliamentary Channel for TV broadcast.

Information Highway

The National Round Table continued to expand its presence on the "information highway" as an alternative means of disseminating information on sustainable development to a wider audience. It established a conference on the WEB (nrtee.sus dev), a computer communications network that serves the environmental, peace, international development, social justice and social services communities. As well, requests for information via the NRTEE's two e-mail addresses (nrtee@web.apc.org and admin-nrtee@nrtee-trnee.ca) increased significantly during the year.

Future Directions

Two new titles will be added to the NRTEE's book series in the spring and summer of 1995. *A Practical Introduction to Environmental Management on Canadian Campuses* by Dixon Thompson and Serena van Bakel, helps universities and colleges to respond effectively to the challenge of reducing both their impacts on the environment and associated costs. It has been produced in partnership with The University of Calgary, the Canadian Association of University Business Officers and Marriott Corporation.

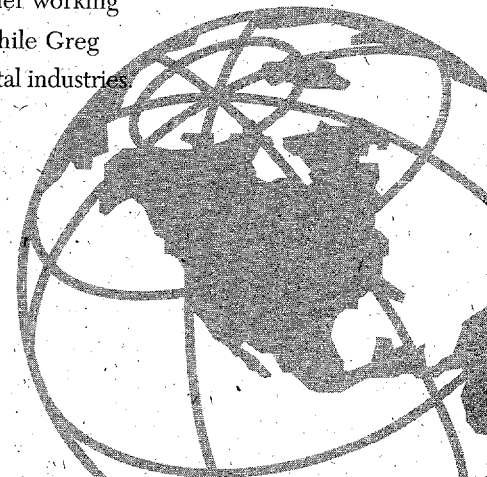
Expanding on the popular booklet *Building Consensus for a Sustainable Future: Guiding Principles*, a third new book will highlight experiences from across Canada and describe how the principles of consensus decision making can be practically applied in many different conflict situations.

This coming year will also see the introduction of the National Round Table's Gopher and World Wide Web sites on the Internet. This will provide on-line computer access to information on the NRTEE and many of our documents and reports.

Roy Aitken Sustainable Development 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 on the Environment and the Economy. The program, sponsored by the International Nickel Company (INCO) and the National Round Table, honours Roy Aitken, former Executive Vice President of INCO Ltd., who passed away in 1992. Aitken, a Canadian leader in sustainable development, was one of the most effective advocates for the view that the environment and the economy must be combined in planning by decision makers.

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, while Greg carried out research on environmental industries.



NRTEE Publications

Sustainable Development Book Series



A Manager's Handbook

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.

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 the Association of Canadian Community Colleges member institutions that have attempted to green their campuses.

Sustainable Development: Getting There From Here

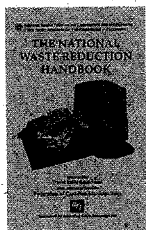
A handbook for union environment committees and joint labour-management environment committees. Highlights the sustainable development experiences of Canadian unions at the local, regional and national levels.

Covering the Environment: A Handbook for Environmental Journalism

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

Pathways to Sustainability: Assessing our Progress

Establishes a framework for a reporting system on progress toward sustainability, with a case study on the Great Lakes basin ecosystem.



The National Waste Reduction Handbook

Working Paper Series



Green Guide

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 the impact of government incentives on the environment. Uses the 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 Rinnalls 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 toward 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.

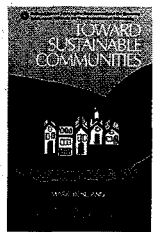
18. *Aperçu nationale sur la planification stratégique du développement durable dans les provinces et les territoires du Canada*, by Philippe Clément. Summarizes the response of Canada's provinces and territories to the sustainable development challenge including strategies and actions.

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. *Linking Land Titles/Registry Systems in Canada to Land-Related Environmental Information*, by J. Anthony Cassils. Explores the rationale and benefits of linking Canada's land titles/registry systems with land-related environmental information.



Covering the Environment



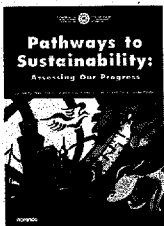
Toward Sustainable Communities



Trade Environment & Competitiveness



Sustainable Development: Getting There From Here



Pathways to Sustainability

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 office.

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 members of the Forest Round Table.

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 made up part of the NRTEE's submission to the federal government's Foreign Policy Review.

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

27. *Exploring Barriers to Sound Environmental Practices*, by J. Anthony Cassils. Looks beyond tax disincentives to explore underlying fiscal and other barriers to sound environmental practices.

28. *Environmental Taxation, Revenues and Effectiveness: The Need for Principled Guidance*, by Robert J.P. Gale. Reviews salient points in the current debate over environmental taxation and suggests certain principles that could be used to guide the setting of green taxes.

29. *Principles for the Sustainable Development of Pulp and Paper Products: A Report from the Pulp and Paper Round Table*, edited by Steve Thompson and Sarah Shadforth. The interim report of the Pulp and Paper Round Table, highlighting agreed to principles.

30. *After Rio: The Question of International Institutional Reform*, by Maurice Strong. Suggests reforms in the management, structures and mandates of United Nations and Bretton Woods institutions.

Reports

Building Consensus for a Sustainable Future: Guiding Principles. A joint initiative of the national and provincial round tables. A detailed "how to" on consensus decision making based on 10 principles.

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.

Achieving Atmospheric Quality Objectives Through the Use of Economic Instruments: A Final Report of the Economic Instruments Collaborative. Examines the potential for using economic instruments to address Canada's air quality challenges. Report divided in three sections: acid deposition, ground-level ozone and greenhouse gases.

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.



Building Consensus for a Sustainable Future

The North American Free Trade Agreement and the North American Commission on the Environment. Report of a December 1992 workshop held in Ottawa, Ontario.

Shaping Consensus: The North American Commission on the Environment and NAFTA. Report of an April 1993 workshop held in Washington, D.C.

Advancing Sustainable Development at the Summit of the Americas: Volume I. Report of July 1994 workshop held in Washington, DC.

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.

Model Round Table for Youth Kit. A guide for educators and facilitators that helps students simulate round tables on a particular issue, identify key stakeholders and work through the consensus decision-making process.

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

Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Sustainable Tourism. Published in partnership with the Tourism Association of Canada.

Focus 2000: A Small Business Guide to Environmental Management. An action-oriented planning guide designed to help Canadian companies put environmental responsibility into practice.



Model Youth Kit

Other Products

COURAGE Cassette and Music Video on Sustainable Development. Featuring the Canadian rock group INFIDELS and singer-poet Meryn Cadell, with an introduction by Peter Gzowski. Encourages respect for the environment among Canadian youth.

National Round Table Poster. Includes the NRTEE's ten Objectives for Sustainable Development.

Newsletters and Annual Reviews

Spring '92 (Round Tables in Canada)

Fall '92 (Biodiversity)

Annual Review 91-92

Spring '93 (ENGOs)

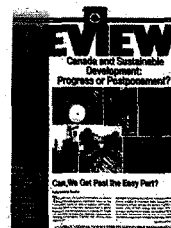
Fall '93 (Jobs and the Environment)

Annual Review 92-93

Spring '94 (Sustainable Communities)

Fall '94 (Sustainable Development Progress)

Winter '95 (Evaluating Round Tables)



NRT Review

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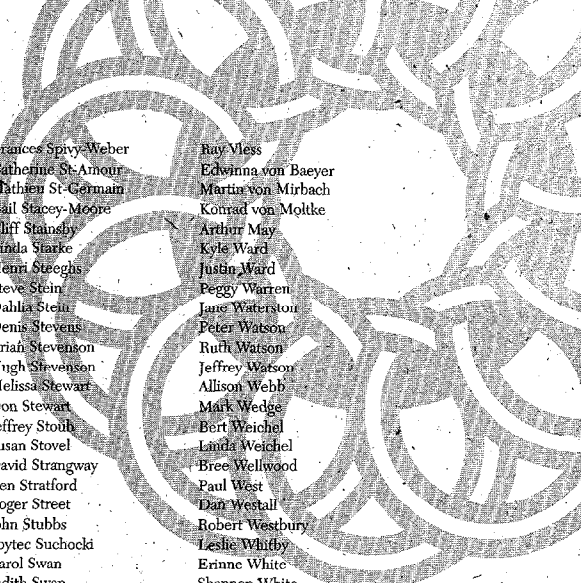
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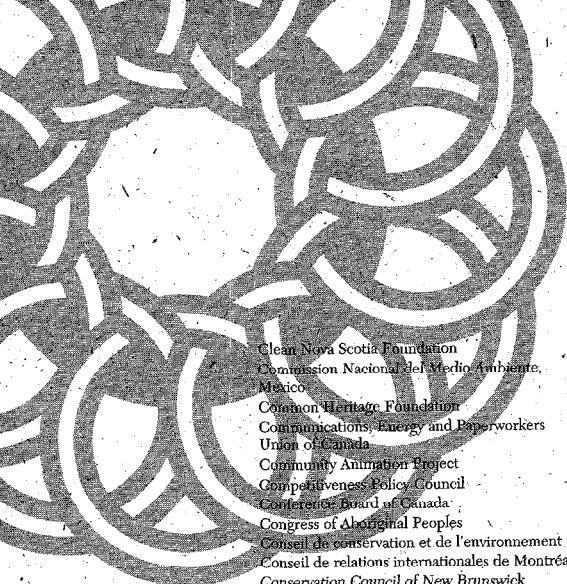


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 Association des industries forestières du Québec
 Association of Municipal Recycling Coordinators
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Canadian Museum of Nature
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International Council for Local Environmental
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International Development Research Centre
International Institute for Sustainable
Development
International Joint Commission
International Maritime Biodiversity Development
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International Monetary Fund
International Union for the Conservation of
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International Centre for Sustainable Cities
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McGill University
McMaster University
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Mount Allison University, Rural and Small Town
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National Aboriginal Forestry Association
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Royal Botanical Gardens Hamilton
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Transport 2000 Québec
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UNESCO-Man and the Biosphere
United States International Trade Commission
United Native Nations
University of Alberta
University of British Columbia, Sustainable
Development Research Institute
University of Calgary
University of New Brunswick, Environmental and
Sustainable Development Research Centre
University of Ottawa, Institute for Research on
Environment and Economy
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US Department of the Interior
US Department of Treasury
US International Trade Commission
US State Department
Victory Design
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Wildlife Habitat Canada
World Bank
World Conservation Union
World Watch Institute
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