

rcen aga 2009

Cities and Biodiversity

Edmonton, Alberta - June 12th-14th 2009



Join your colleagues in Edmonton for the 2009 RCEN Annual General Assembly!

The [Canadian Environmental Network](#) (RCEN) would like to invite you to attend its 2009 Annual General Assembly (AGA) this June in Edmonton, Alberta. Join over one hundred environmental activists, scientists and engaged citizens from across Canada for this important annual event for grassroots environmental NGOs (ENGOS).

BiodiverCity - Cities of Nature, In Nature

The theme of this year's AGA is "Cities and Biodiversity". Speakers will highlight the important relationship between biodiversity and Canada's growing urban reality, from the impact of cities' demand for resources to the possibilities of growing more food locally and the benefits of natural areas within cities.

The three-day event will feature:

- Keynote speeches by Dr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity and Stephen Mandel, Mayor of the City of Edmonton
- A presentation by Ron Berezan on Permaculture and Rooftop Gardens
- Panels on Sustainable Community Management and Nuclear Energy
- A Presentation by Rebecca Aird, Environmental Petitions Manager, Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development

Invitation to Members of the RCEN

For over thirty years, the RCEN Annual General Assembly has been the primary event for grassroots ENGO members to meet and discuss current environmental problems, opportunities, strategies and successes. Your participation is essential to maintain a strong, vibrant network of environmental organizations!

The AGA will offer several "face-to-face" opportunities to members, including:

- Meetings of all 10 national caucuses
- An important cross-caucus meeting
- An *Inter-organizational Fair*, which is open to all participants
- Several networking opportunities and social activities

Registration is offered to RCEN members at a discounted rate. See the [registration form](#) for more information.

WHEN and WHERE

The 2009 AGA will be held from **Friday, June 12th to Sunday, June 14th**.

The event will take place at Grant MacEwan College in downtown Edmonton. The College's Robbins Health Learning Centre is a Silver LEED certified building, as is the MacEwan Residence where most participants will be staying. A block of rooms at the residence has been reserved for participants who register before May 8th.

Side Events and ICLEI World Congress

AGA participants are also encouraged to stay in Edmonton for an extra day and take part in a series of side events being organized for Monday, June 15th:

- A tour of the non-profit Edmonton Waste Management Centre of Excellence
- A guided visit through an Edmonton Net Zero Energy home
- An *Anti-Nuclear Teach In* organized by a number of RCEN members

The conclusion of the AGA has been planned to coincide with the official start of the [ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability World Congress 2009](#). From June 14-18, this event will gather more than 700 local and world-wide leaders and contribute to finding solutions to accelerate local action for sustainability.

A Green Event!

The RCEN is working in partnership with [Événement ÉCOresponsable](#) to make this a green event by reducing our carbon footprint and aiming for zero waste.

Visit www.rcen.ca/AGA/2009/index.html
for more information and to register online.

Spaces are limited; please register before May 8th!

You can also contact Joséphine Hénault, AGA Coordinator:

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