



Mission Statement:

Environment North strives to improve and protect the ecological sustainability and socio-economic well being of Northwestern Ontario through leadership, research, partnerships, education, community advocacy, information and community capacity building. We recognize that Environment North's specific actions and activities revolve around respect and shared responsibility for air, water and land - the essentials of all life.

2009 Activities

Funding for Local Projects:

- Environment North facilitated financial support of the **Northern Ontario Sustainable Communities' Partnerships Workshop on "Community Forests: a Tenure Reform Option for Community Sustainability in Northern Ontario"**. The two day workshop (March 4-5) involved an unprecedented number of first nation communities and may have been the first time that so many First Nations met with other northern residents to talk about the common forest lands we share. About 120 delegates participated, representing 21 First Nation Communities, local municipalities, local citizen committees (LCCs), students and academics, non-governmental environmental organisations, the forest industry and unions. The workshop was also web-streamed on KNET. The purpose was to discuss how local communities might gain more control over decision-making regarding the stewardship of northern Ontario forests. Speakers shared experiences about models of community forestry from across Ontario and Quebec.
- Funding was provided to assist in the publication of "**Gardening with Short Growing Seasons**" by Graham Saunders. The gardening book is a Food Security Research Network project. All 1500 copies are nearly sold and profits will be used to assist a local gardening project. Graham has had the opportunity to speak to many groups in Northwestern Ontario about gardening in boreal regions and more opportunities have arisen in 2010. This book has contributed to the increased enthusiasm about gardening and local food production.
- Funding was also provided by Environment North
 - to aid the **Citizens Concerned about Michipicoten Bay**
 - to the Thunder Bay Field Naturalists to help purchase property at **Pine Bay** in the Municipality of Neebing.

Increased Public Awareness

- Environment North continues to publish articles in the Thunder Bay Chronicle Journal to bring attention to regional environmental issues. Topics for 2009 included: **solar energy, new boreal forest legislation, forestry tenure and a greener Christmas**
- The **2009 AGM** was held on Earth Day. The business meeting reviewed some of the main activities for the year 2008, modified By-Law #1 and elected the 2009 Board of Directors. The presentation titled "**Future Tense, the Challenge of Climate Change**" was given by Peter Globensky, former chief executive officer of the Canadian Environmental Ministers and a champion of social justice.

Participation in Regional Events and Issues

- Members participated in a **Climate Rally** at Waverly Park. This rally was organised by Alex Boulet of the Lakehead University Student Union and brought attention to the international climate change conference in Copenhagen. Speakers at the event included Bruce Hyer, Member of Parliament for Thunder Bay Superior North, Graham Saunders of Environment North and city counsellor Rebecca Johnson.
- Environment North welcomed cyclists participating in the **Pedal for the Planet** as they passed through Thunder Bay.
- Environment North continues to attend **Earthwise Energy Working Group** meetings. Currently the group's efforts are on implementation of the Environmental Community Action Plan and on monitoring progress.

Environmental Capacity Building

- Environment North participated in the **Future Fund Learning Circle** in Toronto.
- Environment North has been a key partner in the first year of the **Northern Connections Project (NCP)**. With the goal of increasing the leadership and capacity of the grass roots environmental organisations, the NCP has been building a pan-northern Ontario network. Work to date includes: discussions with over 30 environmental organizations, help organizing the Sustainable Communities in the North Conference in Thunder Bay (recognized as the largest sustainability forum ever held in Northern Ontario), the production of five e-lectures on environmental topics and the development of a website and list-serve to share environmental information and events. The NCP is a collaboration between Environment North, Ontario Nature, the Northern Ontario Sustainability Communities Partnership, the Anishinabek of Gitchigama Environmental Programs, the Sault Naturalists of Ontario and Michigan, the Food Security Research Network and Dr. Connie Russell, professor of environmental education at Lakehead University. You can visit the NCP website at www.nconnection.ca

Financial Report 2009:

	December 2009	December 2008	
Receipts:			
Memberships	\$ 395.00	\$ 540.00	
Donations: Individual	582.20	30.00	
Corporate	475.00	0	
Grants & Project Funding	10,000.00	2,520.00	
Project Fundraising	5,092.25	1,542.11	
Other	0	238.48	
TOTAL Receipts	\$ 16,544.45	\$ 4,870.59	
Expenditures:			
Charitable Programs & Donations	\$ 14,890.00	\$ 1,268.48	
Meetings & Communication	368.29	182.47	
Fundraising, Conferences	150.00	2,628.12	
Salary & Benefits	118.81	17,517.47	
Membership Fees Paid	50.00	90.00	
Honorariums	40.00	250.00	
Professional Fees	0	280.00	
Banking Fees	12.50	21.60	
Other	70.04	418.38	
TOTAL Expenditures	\$ 15,699.64	\$ 22,656.52	
Assets:		Liabilities:	
Bay Credit Union PCA	\$ 9,181.66	Lake Superior Initiative	\$ 1,392.11
Bay Credit Union Term	10,000.00	Climate Initiative	440.46
TOTAL Assets	\$19,181.66	TOTAL Liabilities	\$1,832.57

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FOR MORE INFORMATION...

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environmentnorth.ca