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| **From the Ecology Action Centre:**

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| **Submit your comments about environmental assessment modernization!** The Province of Nova Scotia has announced that public consultation on the modernization of the environmental assessment (EA) process will be open until **Friday, Oct. 6**. The Ecology Action Centre has been responding to, and thinking about, the Nova Scotia environmental assessment process for many years and has recommendations for government to include in an updated EA process. [Read our high-level recommendations here](https://ecologyaction.ca/civicrm/mailing/url?u=32215&qid=3231339). We welcome you to amplify these points in your own submissions! We will release a more detailed final version of EAC's submission closer to the Oct. 6 deadline.Click the link below to provide your feedback! You can also write to [eamodernization@novascotia.ca](https://ecologyaction.ca/civicrm/mailing/url?u=32216&qid=3231339) or call 902-424-0991 and leave a message.<https://novascotia.ca/environmental-assessment-engagement/>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**From the Annapolis Waterkeepers: their feedback on the Environmental Legislation and how it can be modernized can be read on this page:**[**https://www.annapoliswaterkeepers.ca/**](https://www.annapoliswaterkeepers.ca/)

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| F:\0.DEN Enews\Save our old Forests 1.jpg | ***NS COLLABORATIVE PROTECTED AREAS STRATEGY* - YOUR response needed by October 6**The province is seeking public input on how "***we can collaboratively achieve our goal of protecting and conserving at least 20 percent of Nova Scotia's land and water by 2030***".   Which aligns perfectly with the ask of the *Save Our Old Forests*campaign.  The survey is open until **Friday, October 6, 2023** so please submit your response soon!  We have put together a [Template of Responses](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BIiERUfpZHNsWBuVqdIHBwLpZxi2EMjh/edit) that you can use to help get you started.    Here is the link to the online survey:  <https://ns20by2030.ca/> |

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**Hope Unleashed** is a comic book about moving from climate anxiety to climate action.  The story begins with Maude the dog and her concern for her person, Patrick, who is paralyzed by climate anxiety.  We follow Maude and Patrick as they learn about some of the people and organizations in Nova Scotia working to make a difference.  We empathize with Patrick when he reaches the point where "it still feels like all too much" but he knows he's ready to make a start. The story is appropriate for upper elementary to adult readers. Younger (or older) readers may also enjoy colouring the pictures. Good for families. **Hope Unleashed** is available in Halifax. Linda Scherzinger has them. Contact her: lindakseven@gmail.com for pick up. Cost is $12 each. The Ecology Action Centre and NS Nature Trust receive 20% of all sales. For our New Brunswick readers:Contesting Energy Discourses through Action Research (CEDAR) is a five-year project studying energy transitions in Canada with a focus on New Brunswick.For more information:<https://cedar-project.org/> |



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| **Time Limit Trick Defeated!** Indigenous peoples of Brazil and allies around the world are celebrating a historic victory after many years of struggle! The genocidal and catastrophic Time Limit Trick was recently rejected by the country’s Supreme Court. The joy and relief are tangible from a distance, as this ruling affected hundreds of thousands of Indigenous people who faced losing their lands and dozens of uncontacted tribes who could have been wiped out. Countless people protested, signed petitions, and took action to make sure this disaster didn’t happen. There is still more work to do, but this is an example of the strengths found in our global community and the positive changes we can push for together. BUT THE FIGHT IS NOT OVER. Bill PL2903, known as the 'bill of death’, is still on the table but without the Time Limit Trick component. More than 30,000 people have already sent an email to the Brazilian Senate urging them to refuse the anti-Indigenous measures. If you haven’t already, please take a moment to sign or share this petition:    [Brazil: vote NO to PL2903! | Survival International](https://act.survivalinternational.org/page/129255/action/1?ea.tracking.id=EmailNewsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=engagingnetworks&utm_campaign=utm_campaign&utm_content=230922+email+update+(Marco+Temporal+victory)+-EN&ea.url.id=6588106&forwarded=true)**Greenbelt Land to be Returned** “It was a mistake to open the Greenbelt.” This admission comes from Ontario Premier Doug Ford eleven months after the Progressive Conservative government opened up the Greenbelt to development. The Greenbelt plays an important role in sustaining ecological and human health. It covers wetlands and conservation areas and has some of the most productive farmland in Canada. Ford has vowed to return all the land back into the Greenbelt, keep the land that was added, and to not touch this protected area again. The level of pushback from municipalities and the public meant that none of the removed lands had any development occur on them. The result of this victory comes from many groups, a surge in community level action, and ultimately from Canadians like you and me who refused to let this loss of nature slide**“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”** Margaret Mead |
| F:\0.DEN Enews\Banners\banners Advocacy.jpg**With thanks to our Advocacy Editors Eva Evans and Jesse Hamilton**[**Sign your name — Seal River Watershed**](https://www.sealriverwatershed.ca/sign-your-name) The Seal River Watershed is the largest intact watershed left on the planet. It is located in northern Manitoba and one of the richest carbon sinks in the world, Four First Nations are working together to permanently protect it as an Indigenous Protected Area. The goal for this place that spans 50,000 square kilometres is to be an area where people, animals, and fish are healthy, where unique languages and cultures thrive, and where there is hope and abundance for all future generations. A recent poll showed 83% of Manitobans support this conservation effort. Protecting the watershed will also help Canada reach its goal of conserving 25% of lands and water by 2025. Let’s tell the Premier of Manitoba to support the Seal River Watershed Alliance's efforts to establish an Indigenous Protected Area.[**Message to a big bank to stop funding Amazonia Destruction**](https://actions.eko.org/pages/santander-stop-profiting-from-destroying-the-amazon-1/?akid=125906.12756693.oEhPSy&rd=1&source=fwd&t=13) Devastating oil and gas projects would not be possible without the funding coming from a handful of banks. Santander, one of the biggest investors in Amazonia destruction, has given these projects over 1.2 billion dollars. Santander-funded projects not only exacerbate climate change but also pose a significant threat to the lives and cultures of Indigenous communities who rely on the Amazonia for their livelihoods and sustenance. Other big investors named and shamed, have started to take steps to change. We must pressure Santander to do the same to save the Amazonia. [**Email your MP for a truly just Sustainable Jobs Act**](https://350.org/canada/mp-sja/?akid=319393.2535335.OSxTT9&rd=1&t=5)After a summer of devastating wildfires and flooding in Canada, Parliament has a chance to respond with the bold climate action we need. Unfortunately, the legislation that’s currently on the table – the draft Sustainable Jobs Act – has no urgency, no specifics, and doesn’t mention “just transition” once. The government’s weak climate response has everything to do with Big Oil’s toxic influence on our politics. It’s time to fight back. As they return to Ottawa this week, let’s send MPs a strong message from every corner of the country: it’s time for a Sustainable Jobs Act that meets the climate crisis and economic inequality head on, delivers good jobs, and makes sure no one gets left behind. This is not a petition but an email: you can write your own or use the words provided by 350.org.[**https://bit.ly/bcbs-survey**](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://bit.ly/bcbs-survey&sa=D&source=editors&ust=1695387373339215&usg=AOvVaw3RLODbaueY_LzgSSUvBBpU) Deadly floods in Libya, Hong Kong, Greece, Brazil, and more just last week – we are facing the direct consequences of reckless fossil fuel extraction. And banks are at the centre of it all -- pouring billions into fossil fuel projects. But together we can stop banks’ reckless business. This month, the organisation that sets the rules for banks worldwide – the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) -- is holding an open consultation. This is your opportunity to have your say on the rules that govern fossil fuel investments for ALL banks. Please do this 3 minute survey for you to feedback on the BCBS' proposed principles for ban.F:\0.DEN Enews\Banners\banners Grandmas Going Green.jpg

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| **Erosion**If you look up a definition of erosion, you hear something like “erosion is a process where soil and rocks are being broken down and dispersed by wind, water or other natural ways.” Sure, the rocks are exposed but, it is more about the soil.My mind goes to red cliffs a few miles away breaking off and landing in the salt water. I see roads washed out or shorelines diminishing.I have mentioned before how places like in PEI, farmers often plant cover crops in the fall that are plowed under in the spring. The cover crops help improve the soil makeup and keep the soil from being blown away during winter winds.This week I learned of how the Orkney Islands, 10 miles north of Scotland are replanting trees to help with the same erosion issues. Orkney is on the same longitude as the middle of Labrador. Not quite a tree territory but if it works in Orkney, it could here.These are all fine examples of erosions and solutions. All of them take place far away. This year I saw erosion in my own yard. I didn’t have a big washout or lose land to the ocean. I saw a difference in two of my small garden boxes. At the end of last summer, I wanted this half-moon garden I go on about. I had finished cleaning two box gardens, that sat side by side. I raked the gardens and noticed they both were the same height, reaching the top of a certain board in both boxes. Interesting!I took all the mats and ground cover off the area that became the half-moon garden. I placed those mats in ONE of the box gardens. Come spring I pulled out the mats to use for what will be the NEXT garden and noticed the ground level to that board. In the uncovered garden, the soil was lower, not quite an inch, but definitely lower.Hum! I wonder why? Never thought about it again until I heard about cover crops in the winter.My covered garden did not lose soil. My uncovered one did. It wasn’t any great amount, however, this sort of explains why when I add 4-6 bags of black earth a year, the boxes never seemed to get much higher.In my tiny space, I am not using cover crops. Cleaning my sheds, I came across more old mats and ground cover put aside “just in case they would be needed.” I will cover as much as I can that way.I never would have thought that living across the road from the ocean and its high winds would cause a form of “erosion”. If it took an inch off a box garden, what does it do to fields? **Planning**I will have some people upset with me this week. We should wait till after Remembrance Day for anything to do with Christmas.I agree in most cases. Our military and veterans deserve the most respect we can give them. At the same time, DEN closes for December leaving about 2 weeks that I could show some tips or crafts or recipes. So, I am starting my Christmas Prep NOW. I feel there are three things to do around the first of October; gift planning, containers for the gifts and fruitcake. Then you can relax a bit till November.The first thing to do is to find a good piece of cardboard. We need to get gifts out of the way so we can enjoy the rest of the holiday as it arrives.Write down the name of everyone you purchase a gift for, even the paper delivery kid, the babysitter, etc.For family, I divide my cardboard for “Something they wantSomething they needSomething to wearSomething to read”None of these need to be big gifts. I always point out how my granddaughter WANTED a “magenta” marker the other year. No other colour would do, only magenta. I finally found one that cost more shipping than the marker did, BUT, the joy that marker gave her was worth the shipping fee. Something to wear was these striped “elf” socks two years ago. The “read” for the guys can be a car magazine or puzzle booksRight now, you have LOTS of time. If you shop online look to see what is there. If not plan a few shopping days or just an hour to go to one store NOW. You can go back for more later.Write what you found on your list and put it in a designated tub or dresser drawer. Hide your list somewhere. (My hidden list for my honey is between the covers of my older laptop that sits under this one.) Cross off categories or people as you go.Make a list of those extras for Christmas. Things like tape, ribbon, wrapping paper, napkins, or the containers for the cookies you swap. Grab them when you see them and cross them off your list.All this list-building lets you go into the hassle of holidays thinking, “I just might have a bit of control THIS year”. **Craft**I save small boxes all year round as I get them. I like to paint them plain red, green or yellow. Then all I need is a piece of tissue, plop in the gift, cover it with more tissue and tie it up with ribbon. DONE!Get your gift card holders ready now. Consider gift cards for some wants or needs. Students LOVE gift cards. Prepare to get a few at a time or all at once.The “holders” of gift cards are now becoming numerous and expensive. I made a template for my card holder by measuring a card and adding a bit more. It is approximately 8 inches long with the last two inches slanted like an envelope. Once the pattern is made, find a box board such as cereal and biscuit boxes to use as your cardholder. Use the plain brown side as the inside of the holder. Cover the outside with wrapping paper. Fold to shape and tape. Once you place the card inside, a little ribbon will tie it shutPlain colours work for both birthdays and gifts throughout the year whereas colourful Christmas wrap works best in December.Wrapping paper wrapped in foil and wrapping paper  Description automatically generatedOne friend has shelves in a hall closet. She is so organized she waits for a certain night of the week when the kids are both at an event. She grabs her list, goes to the tubs, wraps and adds tags and puts them in the closet. Last November she had the gifts for outside the house finished.Fruitcake can wait a couple of weeks to make if you like but start looking for ingredients. It isn’t even a hassle of high prices, sometimes the items just aren’t in the store to buy.**My Fruit cake**6 cups of fruit (nuts) which could includeCandied fruit, raisins, dry apricots, dates, red or green cherries, walnuts, almondsPut this in the dry mixture3 cups flour1 tsp cinnamon½ tsp allspice½ tsp nutmeg1 tsp baking powderWet bowl1.5 cups butter2 cups brown sugar (don’t scrimp this time)4 eggs¼ cup corn syrupHave ready a half cup of apple juiceYour fruit and nuts are mixed in the flour. Once you mix the butter, sugar, eggs, and corn syrup, add the flour mixture using the apple juice to moisten it a bit more.Bake at 300 for 2 hoursOnce cool, put in an air-tight container like a cookie tin, dosing with a couple of spoons of rum every couple of weeks till Christmas. (Apple Juice keeps it just as moist as rum).I promise I will dial back Christmas till closer to Advent. If you work on these three things now, it saves double the work laterNow out to my garden to gather the last tomatoes for my homemade sandwich spread. Will tell you about it next week.F:\0.DEN Enews\Banners\banners Prayers.jpgLoving God, creator of the Universe, you know every creature and its needs. With great trust we offer our petitions in the name of all creation. That people of all faiths use the Season of Creation as a time to remember, respect, pray and act for the good of all of creation, let us pray.For more, see:https://seasonofcreation.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/SofCPrayersoftheFaithful.pdf |
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