



October 02, 2023

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/101542159983749>

Website: <https://www.nspeidiocese.ca/ministries/diocesan-environment-network>

Pray with us every Monday Evening at 7 pm. Email us for the zoom link.

“To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth”.



The poster for the Climate Workshop features a central illustration of a person with long dark hair, wearing a yellow raincoat and blue pants, sitting on a green hill and hugging themselves. They have a sad expression. In the background, there is a factory with smokestacks emitting brown smoke, and a city skyline is visible in the distance. The sky is a mix of blue and purple. The text "CLIMATE WORKSHOP" is written in large, bold, dark blue letters, with "SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2023" in smaller, bold, dark blue letters below it. At the bottom, there is a red banner with white text that reads "9:30am to 3:00pm" and "61 Dundas Street, Dartmouth". Above the red banner, there is a purple banner with white text that reads "Visit: www.christchurchdartmouth.com to register" and "Limited to 60 spots!".

Second session is tonight



CLIMATE CHANGE: WHAT'S IN STORE & HOW TO PREPARE

Join CLIMAtlantic, the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and the Primate's World Relief Fund and Development for a two-part virtual series on climate change and its current and future impacts, and to learn about practical ways to protect your property.

Attend the sessions from home or in a gathering of your property committee or parish council. Questions are welcome.

SESSIONS

Understanding Climate Change in our Region

*Tuesday, September 26
- 7-9 pm (ADT)*

Learn about climate change science, data trends and scenarios, and the differences between adaptation and mitigation approaches.

Taking Action

Tuesday, October 3 - 7-9 pm (ADT)

Discover which climate adaptation tools and resources are available, where to go for what and who's doing what.

There will also be a presentation on CLIMAtlantic's Coastal Adaptation Toolkit.

To register for this free event:
<http://bit.ly/458mCUz>

For more information contact Chris Pharo, Hurricane Fiona Response Advisory Committee: cpharo@eastlink.ca

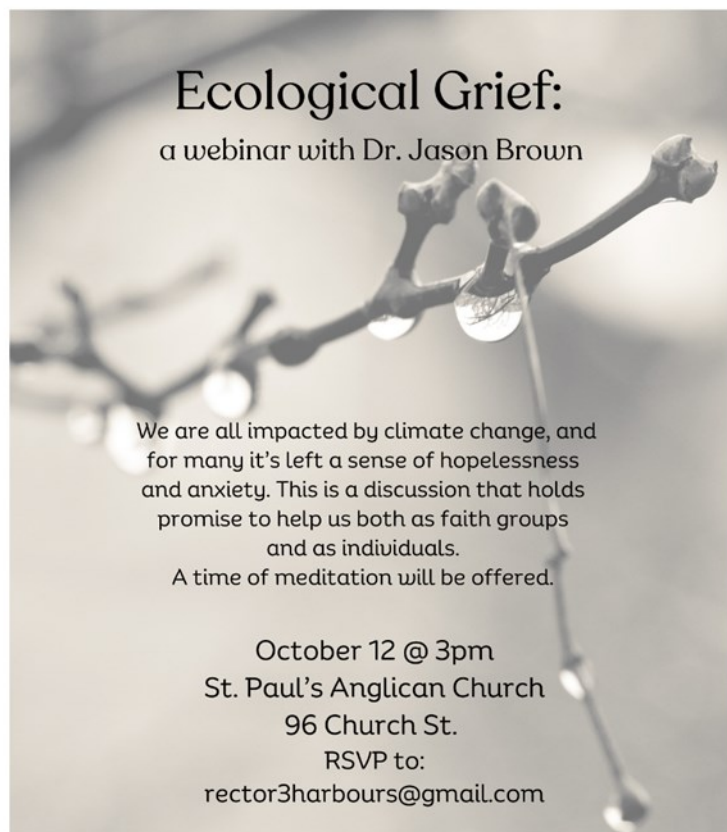
Photo: Christ Church Dartmouth NS, Facebook





Join **Nature Nova Scotia** for an educational community event, the **Chebucto Peninsula Moose Meeting**. Nestled in the picturesque French Village, NS, this event is a celebration of nature and a platform to raise awareness about the vital importance of moose conservation. For more information and to register:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSemTGBq0aIIINZVPiLAUqyqI8J9N3bNfuE6VuPJNadaedsBh0A/viewform>



Webinar hosted by the World
Centre
for Christian meditation





With thanks to Advocacy Editors Eva Evans and Jesse Hamilton

[Letter calling for action from Imperial Oil for Polluting Athabasca Watershed](#)

Imperial Oil's Kearl facility recently spilled 5.3 million litres of toxic waste into nearby lands and waters. **This disaster exemplifies the failure of tar sands companies to responsibly manage their toxic waste.** Only after this spill, downstream Indigenous communities, including Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation and Mikisew Cree First Nation, were notified of a second leak from the same facility – one that had been ongoing for nine months. These communities rely on the area for harvesting food and medicines and already experience severe health issues, like high rates of cancer and respiratory diseases. Imperial Oil's latest incidents add to the decades-long contamination of rivers, groundwater, air and boreal forest. With every release, the industry further jeopardizes human health and violates Indigenous rights. In response, Environmental Defence Canada, Keepers of the Water and Indigenous Climate Action, alongside other environmental organizations, sent a letter with a set of demands for the Alberta and federal government. Please add your name.

[Letter to PM Trudeau to Help the People of Grassy Narrows](#) In the 1960s an upstream paper mill dumped 9 tonnes of mercury into the Wabigoon River, poisoning the fish and the people of Grassy Narrows. Three generations later the people continue to suffer from intense health impacts and a loss of their way of life and economy. Federal governments have done little to improve the lives of Grassy Narrows people. In November of 2017, then Minister Philpott committed to build a home and treatment center for mercury survivors in Grassy Narrows so that sick loved ones can be cared for with dignity. As of June 2023, construction has not begun! CBC report that over 90% of the people of Grassy Narrows have symptoms of mercury poisoning. Please consider adding your name to this Leadnow letter.

[Petition to Stop the Rosebank oil field \(greenpeace.org.uk\)](https://greenpeace.org.uk) Breaking news is that the UK government has approved Rosebank, the largest undeveloped oil field in the North Sea and only 80 miles from the beautiful Shetland Islands. We spent all summer seeing the effects of the climate crisis from devastating floods, wildfires, and scorching heat globally. We cannot let it get hotter, and yet Rosebank will only pour more fuel on the fire. Do we want climate wrecking new oil and gas or investment in renewables, which are now nine times cheaper than gas? Do we want to be dependent on expensive, polluting oil and gas for longer, when we can and should be rapidly switching to clean, affordable energy? What Rosebank produces won't lower household bills or secure the UK's energy supply. It will be sold at world market prices and is designed to make oil giants even richer at our expense. Tell the UK Prime Minister that the real solutions to the energy and climate crisis is renewables and energy efficiency, not committing to massive new oil and gas licences, permits, and projects.

Wealthy Canadians and corporations should pay to save the planet | Canadians for Tax

Fairness The rich are responsible for a majority of emissions while the poorest bear the brunt of climate change. This is our world's reality, but options like this petition give everyday people a way to help shape it in a fairer way. Canada is spending \$88 billion over ten years to transition to a lower-carbon economy. Experts say we will need to spend \$570 billion over ten years on climate investments in order to avoid catastrophic climate change. That is an enormous difference, but we can learn from the progressive, new taxes that are being implemented in other countries. We can raise that needed revenue and fund a green transition by taxing corporations and their wealthy owners who have profited from climate change. We can refuse to let this burden remain on the vulnerable and on our environment. Here is a chance to tell our government that climate justice involves tax justice.

Petition · Time for Toronto to Ban More than 6 Single-Use Plastics · Change.org The demand for single-use plastics is destroying our environment and harming our health. Banning significant single-use plastics is a needed step to protect our environment, health, and future. The more cities and places that start to make changes, the easier it will be for others to replicate. Toronto is our country's largest city. If this city is committed to zero waste and reducing effects of single-use, take-away items on our environment, it must say no to destructive single-use plastics. Items determined to be of high and medium priority include plastic bags, bottles, caps, cutlery, cups, and lids. Help this grassroots organization send a message to Toronto's mayor and council by adding your name to the petition and spreading their message of stopping plastics!

Stop Killing Alaska's Bears and Wolves (biologicaldiversity.org) 94 brown bears were recently slaughtered in the state of Alaska. Gray wolves, black bears, and other important carnivores were also killed. They were shot from helicopters in a misguided attempt to boost the Mulchatna caribou herd for hunters. Alaska's predator control is cruel, unnecessary, and ineffective, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service must intervene. Each year, Alaska gets millions of federal dollars for state wildlife management projects. By law, that money can only go to states that have demonstrated their commitment to wildlife conservation. Alaska has a law that "requires" the killing of ecologically important top predators. This should disqualify it from future allocation of federal funds and the US government should not be in the business of killing top predators for hunters' benefit. Add your voice in telling the US Fish and Wildlife Service to not give Alaska any more conservation funding until the state conserves — not kills — its wildlife.



Interesting Read

From the Annapolis Waterkeepers comes this article on Environmental Justice:

<https://www.annapoliswaterkeepers.ca/>



Save Sandy Lake

Sandy Lake needs you now to halt any further movement of development in this sensitive area. Please see the websites below for lots of info:

[Ecologyaction.ca/SaveSandyLake](https://ecologyaction.ca/SaveSandyLake)

<https://naturens.ca/save-sandy-lake/>

<https://sandylake.org/>



Grandma's Going Green

Community Gardens last week. The last storm made it a bit ragged. That is watermelon vines on the far right. A new gardener was successful in growing watermelons here this year.



September 28th and the zucchini just keeps growing. Taking a risk with frost but waiting a few days to pick these..



Closed and Open Loop Systems

I love to study but sometimes what I hear is opposite to what is correct. Certain words should mean the opposite in my head; all part of being a multi-modem learner. Such was the case with open and closed-loop systems.

This all started when I heard of a beer company. They used their waste products from cooking the grains that make beer as fertilizer and growing medium to grow more hops and barley to make more beer. At least part of the materials used to make a product is fed back and used again. That is a **closed** loop.

An **open loop** system is when materials needed to make a product are NOT able to be reused to help make more of the same product. They are discarded and become waste.

The only way I could understand is to consider the loop to be a kid's train track. If the track is an oval and all joined together *or closed*, the train goes round and round. If the track is left *open* or in a straight line, then byproducts go off the tracks, maybe to landfills.

So why a big deal to understand open and closed environmental loops? We need more closed loops!

If any manufacturing plant can use its by-products to assist in making more of the same products, (or help make another product) there is less waste. Less waste means less greenhouse gases, less transportation or energy costs and a better way to live on this planet.

It's things like compostable take-out trays and wooden cutlery. At worst, they will decompose and not harm the land.

It's doing waste assessments (sounds icky but necessary). If a company found ONE item that could be repurposed or replaced with a more environment-friendly item, there is a win.

It's making new items like garden edging fences from waste from another project.

The other year I discovered a little-known fact about the Glen Nora Distillery in Cape Breton. Local farmers come and get their cooked grains. The grains feed local animals and lower the cost to farmers to raise their animals. It is a win-win situation.

Closed loops are making a circle and taking waste and turning it into a material to be reused or re-purposed again. Although closed everything keeps going in a circle.

I think of a fir tree at home. Dad cut it down. He sawed it into chunks and then split it into pieces for the stove or the furnace. Even the chips were gathered up and used as kindling. It didn't stop there. Mom remembered Arbour Day when she was a kid. Dad and I would go back to the woodlot when it was dry enough and dig out trees. Home we came, to plant them down the line where winter storms took out the trees.

That was a closed loop. We need more closed loops.

<https://www.e-education.psu.edu/eme807/node/624>

<https://closedloop.com.au/>

<https://closedlooprecycling.us/>

Oddity

Love this idea! The engine may not work but the body is in decent shape. Why not use it for a bridge? I am sure they needed to reinforce the floor but what a neat way to cross a little brook in a town.

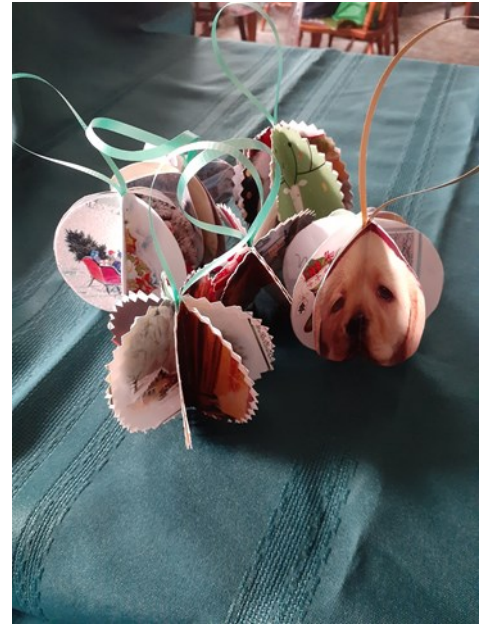
<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=substainable%20civil%20engineering>



Christmas Card Ornaments.

Although these can be made from card stock, if you have old Christmas cards, all the better. Cut out 8 circles. Fold them in half with the good side folded in. Glue the sides together. Put in a ribbon before glueing the last two circles shut.

This is a great idea for a youth group. Pinking shears make a fancy effect.



Something to eat

Sandwich Spread was a staple in our house when I was growing up and when raising my kids. Sometimes we may not have had peanut butter or Cheese spread a few days before a pay, but you could always make a snack with sandwich spread. For those that may remember the store-bought variety, this tastes like the Heinz variety of Sandwich Spread. It is a long procedure but is happy to wait longer than needed for the next action.

Homemade Sandwich Spread

The night before put the following through a grinder

1 gallon (16 cups) (4 Liters) green tomatoes

2 small bunches of celery (could be smaller)

1 quart (4 cups) (a little more than 1 litre)

6 red and 6 green peppers (I sometimes substitute a carrot for one red pepper. I often make it with 3-4 of each)

Cover with half a cup of coarse salt and stand overnight.

In the morning, squeeze the mixture dry.

Add the bulk to

1 quart (4 cups) (a bit more than a litre) vinegar

1 quart (4 cups) (a bit more than a litre) sugar

Bring to a boil and boil for 25 minutes

When ready

Sterilize your bottles.

Add a large bottle of mayonnaise and a small or regular size bottle of mustard

Mix well and bottle

Add the bottle tops and give the bottles a hot water bath for 20 minutes.

Often I use this with cold pork to make sandwiches for the crowd.

Pictures to prove it. I used snap-lid jars but suggest mason jars. Retirement has me running low on mason jars.

