

NGO's and the Environment

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) play an important role in New Brunswick's environmental management. NGOs that have a community-based approach can develop sustainable solutions at the local level, tailoring unique solutions for New Brunswick communities. New Brunswick NGOs are already working to increase the awareness and understanding of environmental issues that affect the province. The new challenge for environmental NGOs is to introduce climate change into their mandates, and build the capacity to take actions on these concerns.

NGOs in New Brunswick are as diverse as the province and its people. The **New Brunswick Climate Change Hub** can provide information on success stories, lessons learned, links and contact information for NGOs implementing climate change adaptation and greenhouse gas reducing solutions.

It is important for NGOs to remember that climate change is expected to complicate existing environmental problems. New Brunswick NGOs can also help reduce climate change impacts by implementing activities to conserve, protect or rehabilitate already vulnerable ecosystems. Here are some example climate change impacts by sector:

- *Coastal Zone Management* – flooding and storm surge damage
- *Air Quality* – increased number of high temperature, smoggy days
- *Wetlands* – accelerated habitat change
- *Watershed Management* – increased number of summer drought days
- *Built Environments and Land Use Planning* – higher possibility of springtime river flooding

Organizations wishing to learn more about other environmental groups and environmental networks may want to visit the Canadian Environmental Network at <http://www.cen-rce.org>.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.nbhub.org

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Success Story!

Atlantic Council for International Cooperation

Since September 2000, the Atlantic Council for International Cooperation (ACIC) has conducted a series of public deliberations on global climate change across Atlantic Canada. The deliberations provided a community forum to openly discuss climate change and related health, environment, economy and quality of life issues. Some highlights of the public deliberations include:

- over 500 attendees in the four Atlantic provinces
- submitted position paper to the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers, March 2001, calling for increased greenhouse gas reductions
- submitted final results of the deliberations to media and government representatives at a Kyoto forum in Saint John, NB

For more information, contact the ACIC at info@acic-caci.org, or by phone at 506-375-4795.