CANADA
National Reporting to CSD-18/19
Thematic Profile: Sustainable Consumption and Production

1 Federal Approach to Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)

Canada has been making steady progress towards integrating more sustainable patterns of consumption and production throughout the economy and society. The government aims to balance economic, environmental and social considerations throughout its work on SCP. Much effort is focused on consumer education and awareness, including labelling programs; sustainable production tools such as lean manufacturing, design for environment, extended producer responsibility, and technology road maps; sustainable agricultural production; green buildings and sustainable communities. The government is also active in promoting sustainable tourism; sustainable distribution and retailing practices, including through green supply chains; and promoting education for sustainability.

As a standard operating practice, the federal government consults and partners with other stakeholders in these endeavours, particularly industry, academia, non-governmental organizations, including consumer groups, communities, including aboriginal groups, and other levels of government. The Government of Canada uses a comprehensive set of tools to make progress on SCP, including legislation, regulations, market instruments and incentives, policies and funding programs, and other innovative financing mechanisms, as well as national government-owned corporations and special operating agencies. The federal government also supports research and development and pilot testing of innovative technologies for sustainability. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is a growing focus of government work, and the link between SCP and a low carbon society is an emerging focus of research.

While much is happening at the federal level in Canada on SCP, much is also occurring at the provincial, territorial and municipal levels as well, especially given their important jurisdictional mandates. It will be important to take into consideration efforts by sub-national level governments to obtain a full and holistic picture of progress on SCP in Canada.

1.1 Recent Developments

In November 2008, the first North American Multi-Stakeholder meeting was organized by the Governments of Canada and the United States and the United Nations Environment Programme‘s (UNEP) Regional Office for North America. The Government of Canada provided significant financial support for the meeting, which was held in Washington D.C., with considerable in-kind contributions from the Government of the United States. The meeting was held in collaboration with UNEP‘s Division of Technology, Industry and Economics and in consultation with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and established a number of key findings and recommendations. A report was prepared, with the Co-Chairs’ Summary and several appendices, and the three background papers and presentations provided at the meeting included.

Subsequent to the meeting, the Government of Canada commissioned a policy-options paper. The discussion paper, which was informed by an Advisory Panel of 15 external stakeholders as well as a group of companies and associations, builds on the outcomes of the Washington meeting. The paper

provides a draft Canadian framework for SCP and also includes an illustration of how the framework could be applied in the building and construction sector.

1.2 Governance for SCP

In 2008, Canada's first Federal Sustainable Development Act became law. It requires that the federal government produce a Federal SD Strategy by June 2010 and every three years thereafter. It also requires that the each federal government department produce a departmental SD strategy by June 2011, and every three years thereafter. The departmental strategies are to support and build on the Federal SD Strategy. Canada is currently working towards meeting these requirements.

On behalf of the Auditor General of Canada, the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development provides Canadians with objective, independent analysis and recommendations on the federal government's efforts to protect the environment and foster sustainable development.

The federal government also has in place various requirements and tools to help ensure good public policy development and implementation with respect to sustainability. For example, under the Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement (RIAS), every federal regulatory proposal must undergo an analysis to weigh its social, economic and environmental costs and benefits.

Also, the Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment of Policy, Plan and Program Proposals requires government departments and agencies to conduct a Strategic Environmental Assessment of all initiatives going to cabinet and which have important environmental impacts, either positive or negative.

As well, under the Federal Plan for Gender Equality (1995), departments and agencies are responsible for thoroughly analyzing their proposed policies and programs; conducting Gender Based Analysis (GBA); and including consideration of gender impacts in their legislation, policy, and program analyses. GBA can be viewed as one means by which the social pillar of sustainability is addressed through government policy development and implementation.

2 Green Public Procurement Policies, Laws and Frameworks

The Government of Canada's *Policy on Green Procurement* came into effect in 2006. The objective of the policy is to advance the protection of the environment and support sustainable development by integrating environmental performance considerations into the procurement decision-making process (planning, acquisition, use and disposal). Training was provided and information and tools were also developed, including a web-based Environmental Awareness Toolkit. Green procurement is now embedded as a key factor in over $5 billion worth of commodity management activities. The federal government has also produced a green meetings guide for federal public servants and others.

3 Instruments for Sustainable Consumption

Canada has in place policies and infrastructure to support citizens' choices for responsible consumption of products and services, including consumer information tools. Working with key stakeholders, the government strives to provide a wide breadth of consumer information and services, and engages in research and policy development on key consumer issues such as sustainable consumption. The Government of Canada, through the Office of Consumer Affairs, supports consumer groups and NGOs to ensure they provide effective input into policy development through its Contributions Program for Non-Profit Consumer and Voluntary Organizations, funding

over 40 SCP related research projects since 2002. This work, and other consumer focused SCP research, can be found through the Consumer Policy Research Database, which was developed to increase knowledge transfer across the consumer policy research community. The Government also works to ensure that consumers have the information and tools needed to protect their interests, while driving industry to be more innovative and productive. This includes the development of ConsumerInformation.ca an online portal that gives fast and easy access to accurate, relevant and reliable consumer information, developed in the public interest. Specific products include the development of a consumer guide to green claims.

The Government of Canada, in collaboration with the Canadian Standards Association, released guidelines for the business community to ensure that green marketing is not misleading, while providing consumers with greater assurance about the accuracy of environmental claims. *Environmental Claims: A Guide for Industry and Advertisers* addresses a number of commonly used green claims and provides examples of best practices on how such claims can be used by businesses to comply with the false or misleading provisions of the laws enforced by the government.

Canada also has in place a national eco-labeling program. Created in 1988, it was the world's second eo-labelling program and is delivered under license by TerraChoice.
EcoLogo is a market instrument benefiting consumers and producers, and it is also used by the federal government under its green procurement polices.

The Government of Canada has also established the EnerGuide Label which helps consumers make an energy-wise choice when buying a new appliance. Under the label, producers of major electrical household appliances and room air conditioners sold in Canada must meet minimum energy efficiency standards and are required to display an EnerGuide label.

In 2001, EnerGuide teamed up with ENERGY STAR® to help consumers find the most energy efficient refrigerators, dishwashers, clothes washers and room air conditioners on the market. An appliance receives the ENERGY STAR rating if it is significantly more energy efficient than the minimum government standards.

The Government also supported the research conducted by the Network on Business Sustainability on socially conscious consumerism. This work was presented at the OECD Consumer Committee in June 2009.

There is evidence to suggest that Canadian consumers are adopting behaviours aimed at reducing, reusing, and recycling. The Government regularly collects and analyses data on household behaviours to see how consumption decisions translate into action on the part of households. Recently, a study focused on six environmental behaviours at the household level and found the vast majority of Canadian households were either very active or moderately active.

3.1 Instruments for Sustainable Production

The Government of Canada aims to increase the competitiveness of Canadian manufacturing, IT and other high technology firms. Several programs are in place to support the transition of these industries towards sustainability.

The Government of Canada has produced a SME Sustainability Road Map to help Canadian companies integrate sustainability considerations into their operations, product development, and business strategies.

In 2006-07, the Canadian Resource Guide to High Performance Manufacturing website was established and is currently focused uniquely on providing businesses with access to lean manufacturing information, tools and service providers. Lean and clean workshops were held aimed at training lean practitioners and advocates. Industry Canada is continually updating the lean manufacturing content, and considering expanding content to include sustainable manufacturing information.

To increase industry awareness of sustainable manufacturing practices, the Government of Canada, in collaboration with the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, published a workbook in 2007, Going for the Green: A Manufacturer's Guide to Lean and Green. The guide is geared toward small and micro-businesses and contains workbooks and eco-maps to assist small businesses in discovering problems and opportunities in their environmental, health and safety performance.

In 2006, the information on the manufacturing courseware portal was updated with two new modules related to sustainability. These deal with 'Sustainable Practices in Design and Manufacturing' and 'Design for Environment'.

In 2008, the Government of Canada partnered with the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters Association (CME) and Rogers Industrial Media to develop a benchmarking tool for Canadian manufacturers 'Lean Benchmarking for Canadian Manufacturers – Report of Performance Benchmarks'.

The Government of Canada has undertaken work related to lean manufacturing: Third parties have been trained and certified to apply these technologies; a web-based tool has been developed to demonstrate design for environment techniques and how to implement them; and, strategies are in place, which promote new technologies related to fuel efficiency and alternative propulsion. Sector teams have also been established with a focus on sustainable production--Materials & Manufacturing, Construction, and Bioproducts. Each team has been developing tools, reports, information packages and pilot programs which support sustainable production.

The Government of Canada's technology roadmaps (TRM) are an industry-led planning process that identifies the critical technologies and associated skills needed to compete successfully. It is a collaborative and comprehensive tool to help companies make informed research and development decisions by envisioning future market demand and determining the technological processes and products required to satisfy them. TRMs consistently prioritize environmentally friendly technologies. Since every industry is different, each TRM is unique and adaptable to industry needs. TRMs have been completed on wind energy, carbon capture and storage, clean coal and bio-refineries. Other technology road maps on environmental technologies are also available.

The Government of Canada is also working to develop Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs for a variety of products. These programs give industry the responsibility for managing, collecting and funding recycling. Currently, there are a large number of provincial EPR programs covering a wide range of products. A Canada-wide Action Plan for EPR and a Canada-wide Strategy for Sustainable Packaging are under development.

With funding support from the Government of Canada, CANARIE (Canada's advanced internet development organization) has launched a Green IT Pilot Program to help Canadian innovators to capitalize on emerging opportunities in Green ICT. Specifically, it aims to facilitate national and international collaborative research projects.

The Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA 1999) aims to contribute to sustainable production through pollution prevention. Pollution prevention is an important strategy for industry because it produces positive environmental outcomes and provides flexible tools for industry that improves competitiveness.

The Government of Canada's Pollution Prevention Strategy elaborates on government policy and sets national priorities for action. It focuses on five goals, including achieving a climate in which pollution prevention becomes a major consideration in private sector activities.

The Pollution Prevention Success Stories Website facilitates the transfer of voluntary pollution prevention ideas and practices among organizations and groups, and encourages organizations to take voluntary pollution prevention actions. The website showcases the efforts of dozens of organizations in improving their environmental outputs through water and energy conservation, process modifications, product reformulation and redesign, raw material substitution, cleaner technologies, and better organizational management and training.

The Government of Canada also maintains the Canadian Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse (CPPIC), an online database and comprehensive resource that provides Canadians with the information they need to put pollution prevention (P2) into practice. Over 1900 pollution prevention resources are available to industries, governments, or citizens and communities.

The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) Pollution Prevention Awards Program (P2 Awards) gives national recognition to companies and organizations showing cutting-edge accomplishments and leadership in pollution prevention. Since 1997, 80 companies, municipalities, and organizations have been recognized for their voluntary pollution prevention achievements.

The Government of Canada announced the creation of the Pulp and Paper Green Transformation Program (PPGTP) in June 2009. Canadian companies that produce black liquor will now be eligible to access $1 billion in funding to undertake capital investments at any of their pulp and paper facilities across Canada that improve the energy efficiency of their facilities, their capacity to generate renewable bioenergy and their overall environmental performance.

In support of a new international standard on energy use, an Energy Management Information Systems (EMIS) Audit and Implementation Plan Manual and Tool is being developed by Canada to make energy use more visible, encourage better tracking, and promote energy management investment by industry. It includes an Energy Management Information Systems Audit to identify opportunities for and costs of energy saving investments, as well as an Implementation Plan for preparing a detailed technical and financial business case for implementing an EMIS.

The Government of Canada is conducting a three year National Bioproducts Program (NBP) research program designed to have a net positive impact on sustainable energy; the environment;

and rural revitalization. With $10M per year commitment over three years, four R&D projects are underway in chemical and ethanol production from ligno-cellulosic materials; eco-materials and bio-polyols for the production of environmentally-friendly products for the industry; use of biomass and municipal waste to produce energy and chemicals through anaerobic digestion, gasification and pyrolysis; and establishing a Canadian capacity to produce biofuels from marine algae.

The Government of Canada supports biodiversity conservation as a key management tool for sustainability because plants and animals are vital resource inputs to the production process. Thus, the government is promoting sustainable resource and environmental management by partnering with Canadian industry and NGOs to develop a Business and Biodiversity Program. Current activities underway include: development of Corporate Biodiversity Conservation Guidelines; a compendium of case studies outlining industry success stories for biodiversity conservation, outreach and engagement; and a national corporate biodiversity awards program.

4 Sustainable Consumption and Production in Key Areas

4.1 Sustainable Agricultural Production

The Government of Canada continues to address key agri-environmental challenges in Canada, focusing on agriculture's impact on water quality and use, the health of soils, and the mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The government has contributed to Canada's capacity to improve air quality and conserve water and soil resources through scientific verification of environmental stewardship practices and by increasing knowledge of sustainable practices. By providing new scientific advice and recommendations for the design of agri-environmental programs and policies, the department helped better position the sector to implement sustainable practices.

The Government of Canada has also helped industry to explore new economic opportunities that will contribute to a cleaner environment and healthier living conditions for Canadians, while enabling the sector to maintain or enhance profitability. For example, the Government has undertaken research exploring Ecological Goods and Services (EG&S) market-based policy options, such as reverse auctions and tradeable permits, which could potentially provide farmers with benefits in exchange for implementation of beneficial management practices.

4.2 Sustainable Buildings and Sustainable Communities

Canada's built environment accounts for approximately 50% of all energy consumed in Canada. The Government of Canada, therefore, aims to increase awareness of the benefits of sustainable buildings; to improve capacity in the sector by funding the development of more sustainable building products, services and technologies; to stimulate the market by informing consumers and industry of the benefits; and, to demonstrate and promote Canadian environmental technologies used in sustainable buildings to domestic and foreign markets. The government also fosters commercialization of green building technologies by supporting green building pilot projects and demonstrations such as EQuilibrium (Net Zero Energy Healthy Home) homes which combine resource- and energy-efficient technologies in order to reduce their environmental impact.

The Government has established the Institute for Research in Construction, Canada's leading construction research agency. Equipped with world-class facilities, it carries out applied research on issues of strategic importance to the Canadian construction sector in order to help the sector to

become more competitive through innovation and to foster the provision of healthy, safe and sustainable built environments.

Experts in energy innovations for the built environment, the government's work undertaken by CanmetENERGY is recognized nationally and internationally for its leadership role in the research, development, and deployment of leading-edge energy efficient and renewable energy technologies for new and existing housing, buildings and communities, including key decision making tools such as RETScreen, an award winning online tool to assist project developers to reduce the cost of assessing the feasibility of renewable and energy efficiency project implementation.

The Government of Canada's activities also promote advanced energy solutions, knowledge, practices, and technology development among its partners in industry, academia, and governments at all levels. Notable projects include:

The award-winning Drake Landing Solar Community is a master planned neighbourhood of 52 energy-efficient homes in the Town of Okotoks, Alberta, Canada that is on target to fulfill 90% of each home's space heating requirements from solar thermal energy by 2012 – an unprecedented achievement anywhere in the world.

- The EQuilibrium Communities Initiative will provide financial, technical and promotional assistance to sustainable community projects chosen through a national competition. It will showcase the talents and innovation of Canadian residential developers, planners, designers and municipalities.

- The ēKOCOMFORT program allowed participating manufacturers to access the capital, resources and expertise necessary to innovate and commercialize advanced energy-efficient residential mechanical systems. The program led to the development of integrated space heating, water heating and ventilation systems for today's housing market.

- A wind-hydrogen-diesel energy system is being developed and installed in the off-grid community of Ramea Island, Newfoundland. When completed, it is expected that this state-of-the-art project, will allow the shutting down of all diesel generators on Ramea Island during periods of low energy demand. This will allow the power utility to provide its customers with clean wind power, either directly via wind turbines, or from stored hydrogen, created by using excess wind-generated electricity.

The Council of Energy Ministers released *Integrated Community Energy Solutions - A Roadmap for Action*, is September 2009. The Roadmap presents the role that Canada's federal, provincial and territorial governments can play to advance Integrated Community Energy Solutions (ICES). The Roadmap sets out a broad strategy for action and provides a Menu of Tools that governments can choose from to advance community energy performance and complement existing sectoral energy efficiency activities.

ICES Potential Energy and GHG Savings Assessment Tool is supported by the federal and provincial governments, energy associations and utilities. Led by the multi-stakeholder collaborative, QUEST, preliminary results suggest that ICES could reduce GHG emissions at the community level by as much as 40% to 50%. Final results are expected in early 2010.

The BC Hydrogen Highway is a municipal, provincial and federal government industry initiative showcasing a wide variety of hydrogen and fuel cell technology developments. The project aims to educate, encourage support, and drive further investment in stimulating the start of an international sustainability solution.

4.3 Eco-efficiency/Eco-design Programmes

The Government of Canada promotes eco-efficiency through its EE web site.

The federal government launched its Design for Environment (DfE) study in September 2009. The report provides unique analysis on the current trends and benefits of adopting DfE practices to improve business competitiveness. Information presented in the reports includes internal and external pressures, environmental and business benefits, benchmarking information, and Best-in-Class analysis on the adoption of DfE technologies and processes.

4.4 Promotion of Corporate Social Responsibility for SCP

In 2009, the Government of Canada announced *Building the Canadian Advantage: a CSR Strategy for the Canada's International Extractive Sector*. A key foundation of Canada's CSR Strategy is our ongoing commitment to the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, as supported by our National Contact Point (NCP) and our annual NCP 2008 report to the OECD.

The Government of Canada produced the CSR Implementation Guide for Canadian Business in 2005. This guide is intended to act as starting point for companies interested in implementing and operationalizing a CSR approach in their businesses Given the overwhelming positive response to the Guide, the Government commissioned the International Institute for SD in 2006 to internationalize it.

The government also supported a study which explores the impact of Canadian financial institutions' activities on the sustainability of Canada's boreal region: *Boreal and the Banks Report: Financing Sustainability* was published in collaboration with the six major Canadian banks and the Network on Linking Sustainability to Business Value.

4.5 Research and Development Support and Incentives for SCP

The Government of Canada provides support and incentives to Research and Development. For example:

The Automotive Innovation Fund (AIF) was introduced in 2008 and provides $250 million over five years to automotive firms in support of strategic, large-scale research and development projects to build innovative, greener and more fuel-efficient vehicles. This initiative will make Canada a major research centre for greener, fuel-efficient engine technologies.

The Government's Science and Technology Strategy identified environmental science and technologies, natural resources and energy, health and related life sciences and technologies, and ICT as areas of research strengths to achieve economic and social advantage. Under the S&T Strategy, the government committed to investing $230 million over four years (2007-11) in the EcoEnergy Technology Initiative to support R&D and demonstration of clean-energy technologies.

The Government's Program for Strategic Industrial Projects (PSIP) was established in October 2005 to provide a framework within which a variety of large strategic investment projects by firms in the automotive sector could be administered. It advances and supports industrial research, pre-competitive development, and technology adaptation and adoption projects designed to encourage private sector investments. PSIP requires projects to contribute to the economic pillar of sustainable development, and encourages contributions to the environmental dimension of sustainable development.

The Hydrogen Early Adopters (H2EA) Program was designed to demonstrate new hydrogen technology concepts that would lead to a hydrogen economy for Canada. From 2003-2008, the program offered a sustainable solution to climate change and pollution, particularly in cities. The program supported projects involving a consortium of two or more private and/or public sector partners to demonstrate, on an integrated basis in real-world settings, the use of a wide range of hydrogen and hydrogen-compatible technologies in specific locations across Canada.

Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC) is a not-for-profit foundation founded by the Government of Canada in 2001 to finance and support the development and demonstration of clean technologies which provide solutions to issues of climate change, clean air, water quality and soil, and which deliver economic, environmental and health benefits to Canadians. Its mission is to act as the primary catalyst in building a sustainable development technology infrastructure in Canada.

It operates two funds aimed at the development and demonstration of innovative technological solutions. The $550 million SD Tech Fund™ supports projects that address climate change, air quality, clean water, and clean soil. The $500 million NextGen Biofuels Fund™ supports the establishment of first-of-kind large demonstration-scale facilities for the production of next-generation renewable fuels.

4.6 Sustainable Tourism

The Government of Canada and the Canadian Tourism Commission worked in collaboration with the Tourism Industry Association of Canada (TIAC) to develop a toolkit for tourism operators entitled Green Your Business, which provides practical tips and guidance to help the tourism industry adopt sustainable practices.

The Government and TIAC also offer a Sustainable Tourism Scholarship ($1,000) to Canadian post-secondary students with an academic focus in sustainable tourism. The scholarships are designed to support the industry's future leaders as they study how to improve and enhance the quality and sustainability of natural and cultural heritage-based tourism experiences.

4.7 Distribution and Retailing

The Government of Canada, in collaboration with Design Exchange and Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters, has led research on programmes to integrate sustainability into distribution and retailing. In September, the government released reports on *Green Supply Chain Management in Distribution Activities*. The reports provide unique analysis to help Canadian supply chain managers and policy makers understand the current trends and to recognize the benefits of adopting GSCM practices to improve business competitiveness.

The Government has produced extensive information on sustainability purchasing including case studies and information for SMEs on how to become more sustainable in their purchasing practices.

4.8 Spatial Planning and Sustainable Communities

The federal government led work with respect to spatial planning and sustainable cities. From 1999 to 2006, the award winning Sustainable Cities Initiative (SCI) forged partnerships between Canadian stakeholders from the private, public, and non-governmental sectors and 16 municipalities in developing economies with a view to facilitating urban sustainability.

The ecoENERGY for Aboriginal and Northern Communities Program provide $15 million in new funding over four years to support aboriginal and northern communities working on clean energy projects, including the approximately 130 remote communities that rely on diesel power generation. Goals include: catalyzing renewable energy projects, improving energy efficiency, and adopting alternative energy sources to reduce dependence on diesel fuel.

4.9 Innovative Financing Mechanisms for SCP

The Government of Canada mobilizes financial resources from all sources; provides credit facilities; promotes private investment and other innovative financing mechanisms. For example, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation offers a 10 percent refund on its mortgage loan insurance premium when a borrower buys or builds an energy-efficient home. To qualify for this refund, the home's energy efficiency must be rated using the EnerGuide rating system or be R-2000 certified and meet certain minimum requirements.

Export Development Canada, Canada's export credit agency, established its EnviroExport Program to support Canadian environmental products and technologies exporters in this $1 trillion international market. Some success stories can be found here: Ventus Energy: Wind power and ICP Solar Technologies: Solar Technology.

The federal government's ecoENERGY Retrofit program is designed to help industrial facilities overcome financial barriers to improving the energy efficiency of their operations. The government will provide a financial incentive of up to 25 percent of project costs to a maximum of $50,000 per application and $250,000 per corporate entity to help small- and medium-sized industrial facilities implement energy-saving projects.

4.10 Cooperative Frameworks and Partnerships for SCP

Canada's Computers for Schools Computers for Schools (CFS) program is an innovative partnership between government and industry. Co-founded in 1993 by the government and TelecomPioneers, CFS refurbishes computers and related equipment donated by governments and businesses. These computers are distributed across Canada to schools, libraries and registered not-for-profit learning organizations. Through the donation of 621,502 computers since 2002, 53,915,299 pounds of e-waste (or 26,957 US tons) has been diverted from our landfills.

In partnership with provincial governments, environmental industry associations and the private sector, the Government of Canada supports Canadian Environmental Technology Advancement Centres (CETACs) to promote the development, demonstration and deployment of innovative environmental technologies. The CETACs are located in western, central and eastern Canada. Each is a private, not-for-profit company.

4.11 Education for SCP

The Government of Canada supported the First Annual National Environmental Business Plan Competition and Conference at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia in March 2008. Twenty-three business plans submitted by graduate students from across Canada were reviewed by 12 judges.

With a view to encouraging the integration of sustainability into the curricula of post secondary institutions, the Government of Canada supports annual surveys and ratings assessments conducted by Corporate Knights (CK) magazine on various faculties including law, engineering, architecture, industrial design, urban design, journalism, education, business administration, and public administration. These results are published in CK's annual education edition.

Launched with the help of federal government funding, Environmental Careers Organization of Canada (ECO Canada) is a Sector Council for the environment profession in Canada. It is an autonomous education and employment company focused on environmental training. Its mission is to ensure an adequate supply of people with the demonstrated skills and knowledge required to meet the environmental human resources needs of the public and private sectors.

The Government of Canada announced that it will provide a one-time grant of $15 million to the YMCA and YWCA to place youth in up to 1000 internships in not-for-profit and community services organizations, with a focus on environmental projects. Participants will develop valuable skills and knowledge that will assist them in integrating effectively into the labour market and/or assist them in making the choice to further their education.