

Call for Participation

Knowledge and Innovation for Sustainability: Assessing and Adopting Beneficial Practices

RCE Conference of the Americas
Presented by RCE Saskatchewan

Location: University of Regina
Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada



REGIONAL CENTRE OF EXPERTISE
ON EDUCATION FOR
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Date: May 25-27, 2008



ACKNOWLEDGED BY

Website: <http://www.saskrce.ca/conference2008/>



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY

What is the role of education in knowledge and innovation for sustainable development? What are we learning as regions as we seek to improve quality of life for all while living within the limits of our supporting ecosystem? Regional Centres of Expertise of the United Nations University from across the Americas and the world invite you to participate as we advance the U.N. Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD 2005-2014) at this critical moment in our planet's history.

Proposals are being sought in a number of presentation formats:

1. Formal presentations: You will have 20 minutes to present (with an opportunity for questions) on the topic of education and innovation for sustainable development as it relates to one of the following six theme areas:

- *Climate Change*
- *Health and Healthy Lifestyles*
- *Sustainable Infrastructure including Water and Energy*
- *Reconnecting to Natural Prairie Ecosystems*
- *Farming and Local Food Production, Consumption and Waste Minimization*
- *Supporting and Bridging Cultures for Sustainable Living and Community Building*

2. Poster presentations and displays: These are displayed for the majority of the conference with a specific poster and display viewing time with presenters in attendance. This is an opportunity for you to highlight research and education for sustainable development especially local initiatives occurring in your region. Posters and project or organizational displays will each receive approximately 2 metres/7ft of wall space.

3. Panel Presentations: Opportunities exist for you to take part as a panel presenter focused on the conference theme. These include panels focused on advancing regionally appropriate ESD, sustaining rural livelihoods, innovations in regional and inter-regional networking including the UN University RCE initiative, and case study sustainable development technologies with significant educational components.

4. Workshops: A workshop opportunity is available for you to present ideas in a more interactive style. Current workshop opportunities include (1) evaluation for RCEs, (2) strategic planning, networking, and capacity building for new and established RCEs, and (3) technology adoption in advancing ESD & RCE networks. Organizations and individuals can also suggest further workshop ideas they are interested in conducting.

Please consult the schedule on the RCE Saskatchewan conference website for further details regarding these options: <http://www.saskrce.ca/conference2008/>

Registration details and periodic conference updates are also available on this site. Papers and presentations will be compiled on CD for distribution to conference participants and made available on the RCE Saskatchewan website.

Proposals should include:

- (1) type of presentation (formal, poster/display, or panel presentation or workshop—as above)
- (2) title of presentation and theme area (where applicable)
- (3) presentation description/paper abstract (up to 250 words)
- (4) name of presenter(s)
- (5) name of your organization (where applicable)
- (6) contact information (e-mail, address, telephone number)
- (7) presentation needs (for example, computer, projector, etc.)

Please submit proposals via e-mail to rcesaskproposals@gmail.com

Deadline for submission of proposals has been extended to Tuesday, April 15, 2008.

Please contact us if you have difficulty meeting this deadline.

Preconference Events and Concurrent Opportunities

The RCE will be hosting many interesting field trips and other opportunities before, during, and after the conference, so please consider coming to Regina for a little longer and getting to know our beautiful province.

Conference Sponsors

Sponsors for the RCE Conference of the Americas include the Government of Saskatchewan's Ministry of Environment, the University of Regina's Faculty of Education, Centre for Sustainable Communities, and Conference Fund, Luther College at the University of Regina, the Saskatchewan Outdoor & Environmental Education Association, the Royal Saskatchewan Museum, and the Sask ESD Network.

About RCE Saskatchewan

The Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE) program is a global initiative of the United Nations University-Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS). This is part of the UNU's contribution to help advance the U.N. *Decade of Education for Sustainable Development* (2005-2014). Higher education institutions such as universities, colleges, and technical institutes are lead organizations in the RCE initiative. RCEs also include other educational organizations, businesses, governments, non-profit and community organizations, and individuals. RCE Saskatchewan was formally acknowledged by the UNU in January 2007 with celebrations held in March of that year. Higher education partners include the University of Regina, the University of Saskatchewan, the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, and Luther College at the University of Regina.