



ACER

ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES



Spring/Summer 2012 Newsletter



Donate now!

Go to www.acer-acre.ca to make a contribution to our organization.

You will be contributing to our programs and allowing us to expand our outreach to schools and communities that want to implement their own climate change labs, assess their resources and take ecological action.

Come to our AGM on June 4th, 2012. Details in page

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ACER's Role in the Newcomers Community

Ontario is rapidly changing its population, especially west of metropolitan Toronto. In the last 5 years, there has been an unprecedented increase of new Canadians. Milton has an increase of over 70% according to the most recent census.

Over the last 15 years, ACER has had the opportunity to work with a vast number of newcomers to Canada who have discovered us. These trained professionals were seeking to gain the Canadian experience needed to qualify for a job in their field of expertise.

ACER provides a place to gain workplace skills and uses its network to find opportunities for these newcomers. Working with ACER has enhanced their soft skills for Canadian workplaces. ACER was enriched by their insights and ideas.

ACER helps facilitate the settlement process and the understanding for a Canadian commitment to ensure that our valuable resources will be accessible to future generations.





Legend

1. Appleby College
2. Applewood Heights S.S.
3. Christ the King S.S.
4. Herb Campbell P.S.
5. Oakville Trafalgar H.S.
6. Robert Bateman H.S.
7. Guido de Bres Christian H.S.
8. John Fisher Junior P.S.
9. Ridgewood P.S.
10. T.L. Kennedy S.S.
11. Richmond Street P.S.
12. Princess Elizabeth P.S.
13. Quaker Road P.S.
14. Humber Arboretum
15. West Credit S.S.

Find out how your school can be part of change through the P4C Program!

Our participatory Planting for Change (P4C) program allows teachers, students and schools to create a schoolyard planting site that acts as a mini-climate change outdoor classroom/laboratory. There are now 15 schools in ACER's P4C community.

We have developed more teaching resources and school activities to complement the curriculum related with P4C. We are preparing different versions of manuals for teachers and students. The teacher's version targets implementation of the program. The student's emphasizes knowledge enrichment to help understand the important role students play in planting and measuring.

Our P4C report will be published in the fall of 2012. We will know which species are more successful in our changing climate and look at factors that impact the growth and health of our five indicator species. Last, but not least, we are ready to collect 3rd year of growth data from schools with spring plantings.

You can check our website for photos and data for each school at www.acer-acre.ca.



EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

ONTARIO FORESTRY ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ACER was glad to have display and attend the 2012 OFA's Annual Conference at the Nottawasaga Inn on February 10th, in Alliston, Ontario.



OFA 2012

EUREKA 2012

On February 17th, ACER had display and attended the 6th Toronto District School Board's EUREKA! Secondary Science Conference at the Marc Garneau Collegiate Institute in Toronto.



EUREKA 2012

SEEDY SATURDAY 2012

On February 25th, 2012, the Unitarian Congregation of Mississauga invited ACER to participate in their annual Seedy Saturday and Environmental Fair.

KIWANIS CLUB OF ISLINGTON

ACER presented "Climate Change in Context" session to Kiwanis club members and friends at the Humber Valley United Church on March 6th, 2012.

SHARING EXPERIENCES WORKSHOP

On Saturday, March 31st, ACER participated in a workshop hosted by the Hamilton Conservation Authority in Ancaster, Ontario.



TRAINING DAY AT HUMBER ARBORETUM

HUMBER TRAINING

On April 10th, 2012, ACER trained its volunteers and interns on our training protocols at the Humber Arboretum experimental plot.

HALTON ECO FESTIVAL

ACER had a display at the 12th Annual Halton Eco Festival on Saturday, April 14th, 2012 at the Glen Abbey Community Centre in Oakville, Ontario.

EARTH DAY COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING FESTIVAL

April 21st, 2012, ACER helped with Earth Day Hamilton-Burlington and RBG to monitor planting success of the 550 trees. We inventoried 55 to track their success.



EARTH DAY TREE PLANTING FESTIVAL



AGM 2012

Come and hear the latest ACER news and the status of our programs

On **Monday, June 4th, 2012** we will be hosting our Annual General Meeting at the Humber Urban Ecology Centre.

AGENDA

- 1 **Discovery walk led by Lynn Short to see our projects on the ground at 4:30 p.m.**

Lynn Short is a trained scientist and science teacher who has led programs at Humber Arboretum for many years. She has implemented and assisted in all four ACER programs established there over the last 12 years. We are delighted to have Lynn offer this discovery walk as an introduction to ACER's Annual General Meeting.

- 2 **Registration.**

Start at 6:30 p.m. Annual membership is \$20.

- 3 **Presentations.**

Start at 7:00 p.m.

- Alice Casselman: Welcome
- Sophie Lu: P4C update
- Jane Hanlon: Niagara
- Introduction to HIRA

Free parking
Refreshments will be provided
RSVP: (905) 891-6004 or
aceracreinfo@gmail.com

Thank you!

ACER would like to thank all our sponsors. Their contribution has been key to support and to grow our programs in ACER network of sites in forests and in the schoolyard.

- Maple Leaves Forever
- TD Friends of the Environment Foundation
- Earth Day Canada and Sobey's
- Canadian Tree Fund
- University of Toronto, Mississauga
- Cawthra Park S.S. Co-op Program

We would like to thank our members for their continued support. Thanks also to the teachers, students, interns, and volunteers who participated in our programs and who contributed to our organization.

Special thanks to Karishma Indulkar, a 4th year U of T student of Biology and GIS, who has been active in supporting ACER's activities, research and programs throughout the year.

Special thanks to our Grade 11 intern Ryo Ly from Cawthra Park S.S. who has been an incredible support since January in our office, warehouse and in the field.

Special thanks to our volunteer Christina Muia, a Guelph Univ. agriculture and economics grad, for her creativity and support.

Special thanks to Climate Science International for their technical advice and support.



NEWSLETTER

SPRING/SUMMER 2012

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