



## Note from the Registrar

Welcome to the June edition of the EP News! This month, we highlight the work of **Environmental Auditors**. The role of an Environmental Auditor is crucial to the success of several businesses as they help to quantify environmental

performance and/or environmental compliance with legislation and standards.

We **speak with Andy Gillam** from **AMEC** regarding the challenges faced by many environmental auditors, the importance of proper training and ongoing professional development, and some of his exciting new projects. Please also read below to learn more about how a **new app for your iPad or iPhone** can improve the efficiency of an audit, and about the **final EP event** of the season recently held in Halifax.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us at [certification@eco.ca](mailto:certification@eco.ca).

Sincerely,

**Elizabeth Bowman**  
Associate Registrar  
ECO Canada - Certifications



*Dr. Andy Gillam,  
PGeo, EP(EMSLA), EP(CEA)*

## Profile of the Month

Meet Dr. Andy Gillam, PGeo, EP (EMSLA), EP (CEA)

Andy Gillam is widely known as a top **Environmental Professional (EP)**, certified as an **Environmental Management Systems Lead Auditor and Compliance**

**Auditor**. Leading the management systems and audit group with **AMEC** in Burnaby, British Columbia, Andy is always on-the-go with a range of complex domestic and international mining projects.

"The most exciting project I am working on right now is the Oyu Tolgoi project in Mongolia," said Andy. "The size of the project and the location in the Gobi Desert make it challenging technologically, as well as environmentally and socially." The client, Oyu Tolgoi LLC, is developing the world's largest undeveloped copper-gold project, located in the South Gobi region of Mongolia, approximately 550 km south of the capital, Ulaanbaatar, and 80 km north of the Mongolia-China border.

 FORWARD TO A FRIEND

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### ECO in the News

[Designation lends green credibility,](#)  
*Financial Post*

[Oilpatch recruiters seeing green;](#)  
**Environment part of boardroom culture**  
*Calgary Herald*

[ECO Canada Announces Official Certification in Meteorology](#)  
*thegreenpages.ca*

[World's First ISO Accredited Greenhouse Gas Professional Certification](#)  
*GLOBE-Net*

### Welcome to Newly Certified Members

We are pleased to extend our warmest welcome to the individuals who were awarded environmental

Andy grew up in a small town called Worthing, near Brighton, an hour south of London, England. He studied chemistry at the University of Bath and then obtained a PhD in organic geochemistry from the University of Liverpool. Two years of postdoctoral research at UBC in Vancouver made an impression as he returned a few years later to work for Dobrocky Seatech, one of BC's first environmental consulting groups. Over the past 25 years, Andy has worked with several companies in the area of environmental assessments and audits, including contaminated sites, impact assessments, due diligence assessments and management systems.

Andy's day-to-day activities include working with AMEC's management systems group across the country to provide management systems assessment and development services in the quality, environmental and health and safety areas, as well as environmental compliance and management system audit services. Andy commented, "A lot of our work in Burnaby is for clients in the mining and metals sector. With the recent upswing in mining activity in western Canada, I have recently been involved in several large due diligence assignments."

[Read More >>](#)

## NATIONAL POST

Keeping abreast of current events is especially important to environmental professionals who work in an industry that is rapidly expanding and evolving. For this reason, as an added benefit to certified EP's, ECO Canada will soon be offering [National Post subscriptions for a 75% discount](#) off regular retail pricing.

National Post is known for its insightful commentary by some of Canada's most respected thinkers like Conrad Black, George Jonas, David Frum and Christie Blatchford, who recently re-joined the Post team. Every issue includes the Financial Post, Canada's Business Voice® and home of the best personal finance and investing guide in the country.

designations in the months of April and May.

[New EPs >>](#)

### Promoting EP

(EP)

Learn about the actions taken in June 2011 to [increase the marketplace demand](#) for the EP designation.



Track legislation, understand changes, audit and verify more efficiently

## Profile of the Month (Continued)

"Environmental auditing is not as easy as it looks!" said Andy. "Being able to clearly explain to a client why they are in a non-compliance situation with respect to some activity they are carrying out at a site, or why their operating procedure needs to be revised and rewritten, or why their internal environmental audit program is not working takes time and practice."

When asked about the importance of environmental auditors being part of an independent professional association, Andy says professional associations play a key role in maintaining professional service levels for clients. By stipulating a code of ethics or code of conduct, and by having a means for clients to formally complain about auditors, provides a level of comfort for clients that retain environmental auditors.

For professionals considering environmental auditing, Andy recommends individuals gain experience in an industry like mining or oil & gas for several years before becoming a consultant. He suggests obtaining specialist training or education - such as an MBA for management systems or sustainability auditors - that provides credibility and specific, specialized expertise to clients. Also develop strong soft-skills as they are, "useful to be able to work effectively as part of a team, interact with senior members of your client's management team, and sell yourself and the company you represent."

How does one stay current with recent developments in the areas of providing assurance for corporate responsibility or sustainability reports and auditing of greenhouse gases? Andy says, "The best way to stay current in these areas is to work on client projects; obtain the training and education you need to provide leading-edge service for your clients; attend conferences, preferably as part of the speaking-agenda; and read as much as you can about these topics."

## Apps for iPad and iPhone Improve Audits

The new generation of tablet devices and applications (apps) are proving to be essential working tools for auditors. In a competitive marketplace, using the best technology and software helps auditors improve project management, streamline field work and generate business.

Devices like Apple's iPad and [Nimonik's EHSO Audit and Verification app](#) allow auditors to load customized or generic checklists to be audited against with notes, photos, video and audio recordings.



Nimonik's Jonathan Brun says, "About 72% of auditors are still using pen and paper. This requires auditors to take separate photos and re-type all their notes. This just isn't efficient. Our app centralizes the data collection and allows auditors to perform verifications more efficiently."

Clients of Nimonik's app like that they can type directly on the iPad, and export the data into Word or Excel documents; access customized corporate documents, checklists and legislation on-site; and collaborate with multiple auditors on the same audit.

Apps, which are economical and sometimes free (Nimonik's is \$29.99), put legislation and audit lists a convenient finger-click away, and make it easier for auditors to better access client obligations. It is expected that the number of apps available will increase as auditors learn how easy the tools are to use. There is a desire to offer more apps with legislation lists in Canada, but contrary to the US, legislation is copyrighted by the Crown and this makes an arduous task to include in products.

Combining the benefits and efficiencies of tablets (email, internet, etc.) with the growing number of auditing specific apps in market, tablet devices will undoubtedly become an auditor's most important tool on and off the client's facilities.

## Smokey the Bear's Message Lives On

Roasting marshmallows, and gathering around a burning blaze while exchanging ghost stories; as summer approaches, many outdoor enthusiasts will be partaking in the delight of a fire pit. However, with [uncontrolled fires in Alberta](#) last month, several Canadians may be wondering exactly what fire safety entails these days.

Back in the 40's and 50's the [Smokey the Bear campaign](#) promoted, "Care Will Prevent 9 out of 10 Forest Fires." Today, the message remains the same, but equally important is learning about the environmental effects (both positive and negative), and what happens to an ecosystem post fire.

Alison Clark ([EP](#)), an Ecological Consultant with [Good Nature Ecological Services](#), says, "Fire is a natural phenomenon required by ecosystems for renewal and maintenance; however, [too frequent fire regimes] can exhaust the resources of plant species, threaten the persistence of inhabiting wildlife, and reduce biodiversity."

She adds, "If fires are not controlled adequately, they can endanger surrounding homes and their inhabitants, and the smoke can harm those sensitive to air quality."

Alternatively, in terms of benefits, Clark explains fire helps to:

- Release nitrogen and nutrients otherwise locked up in dead plant matter
- Blacken the earth and increase the amount of solar radiation penetrating the soil surface, thus warming the soil more rapidly
- Create smoke and heat that can act as germination cues for many native fire dependent species
- Remove encroaching trees and shrubs

For Chuck Emery, Wildfire & Emergency Management contractor, mainly for the [British Columbia Ministry of Forests](#), fire is best valued for, "Cleaning up forest debris, such as pine beetle kill and other bug diseases, logging slash, and fungal attacks."

Prescribed fires are occasionally lit to achieve these effects. Clark explains that the planners take the ecosystem into consideration, and monitor the weather carefully to ensure the intended area will burn effectively and efficiently, the fire will be controllable, and most importantly, human safety and well-being will be maintained.

Emery, who describes his role as the "eye in the sky", chases lightening and smoke reports from a helicopter to locate new fires and update the status on existing ones. During the off-season, he teaches fire management and flood training.

For those planning on using recreational fires this summer, Emery advises to, "Have a water supply, and a shovel to scrap fuel away from the fire, and to throw dirt on the fire should it



Chuck Emery acts as an "eye in the sky", monitoring and locating fires from a helicopter.

flare up."

He adds, "Above all, make sure the fire is 100% out when leaving -about half the fires in BC are started by people, and of this, a large percentage is from abandoned camp fires."

Clark recommends to, "Take note of the current local wildfire risk assessment status that is typically posted in parks and along highways. If the wildfire risk is high, consider the wind conditions-high winds plus low humidity and drought are a sure fire way to start a wildfire."

### Ecosystem Changes After a Fire



The Burn



10 Days Later



30 Days Later



120 Days Later

\*Photo credit to Alison Clark and Janine Mcleod

## Get Involved in the 2011 Auditing Association of Canada (AAC) Annual General Meeting and Conference

*A Message from the Glenn Keays, 2011 Conference Chair*

The 2011 Auditing Association of Canada (AAC) Annual General Meeting and Conference will be held at the Delta Fredericton, in Fredericton, New Brunswick, on August 30 & 31, with a number of interesting workshops planned for September 1.

The conference theme, "**New Horizons: EHS Auditing, Sustainability and Assurance**," is intended to highlight the future in non-financial auditing and provide a forum for innovative new techniques, program areas and industry-specific challenges including a showcase of presenters who will discuss their perspective on the role of audit and verification in the assurance of supply-chain compliance and continuity.

In its 18th year, this event has become an important annual gathering for environmental and health and safety management professionals and auditors in Canada. But, in order to make this year a success, we need your help. We still have openings for speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, and conference volunteers - Please contact us with names, suggestions, and / or your offer of support.

To get involved and be informed of our regular updates, please visit the AAC website, [www.auditingcanada.com](http://www.auditingcanada.com).

We look forward to seeing you in Fredericton at the end of the summer.

## Regional Chapter News - June 2011

The third season of EP events closed with the [Halifax event](#) on May 31, 2011, an event held in conjunction with [ESANS' RemEast 2011](#) conference. The attendees examined the complexities of stakeholder relations and engagement on environmental projects during a workshop with [Tanya Collier MacDonald](#), Sydney Tar Ponds Agency, and luncheon presentation with [Darlene Doucet](#), m5pr. [The first Annual General Meeting of Atlantic Chapter of Environmental Professionals](#) was also held and the founding charter was passed. The meeting minutes will be available soon at "[Atlantic](#)."

We look forward to planning the next 2011/2012 season of EP Events and meeting EPs in cities across the country. Upcoming schedule to be announced in August.

Click on your province below for contact information and to learn about the most recent chapter activities.

[British Columbia](#) | [Alberta](#) | [Saskatchewan](#) | [Manitoba](#) | [Ontario](#)  
| [Quebec](#) | [Atlantic](#)

Thank you to our Halifax 2011 Event Sponsors:



To review the discussion that took place at this event please visit [www.eco.ca/Halifax](http://www.eco.ca/Halifax).

## Industry News

[Renewable Energy Could Account For 80 Percent of World's Needs by 2050: UN](#)

[Carbon Capture A Big Go In Saskatchewan](#)

[Greengate picks Vestas for largest Canadian wind project](#)

[UK and Canadian marine pioneers sign development pact](#)

[Wind Energy in Ontario On Pace to Create Thousands Of Jobs](#)

[Yellowknife Finds Partner for Geothermal Project](#)

## Featured Events & Conferences

[Summer Institute in Sustainability Leadership](#)

July 4-8, 2011 - Vancouver, BC

[Sustainable Community Business Conference](#)

July 13-15, 2011 - Sydney, NS

[Canada Parks Day](#)

July 16, 2011

[International Conference on Environmental Pollution and Remediation \(ICEPR '11\)](#)

August 17-19, 2011 - Ottawa, ON

[Ecocity World Summit 2011](#)

August 22-26, 2011 - Montréal, QC

[The Sustainable Chemistry Summit](#)

September 16-18, 2011 - Kingston, ON

[The 5th Annual Overview of Environmental Legislation](#)

September 21, 2011 - London, ON

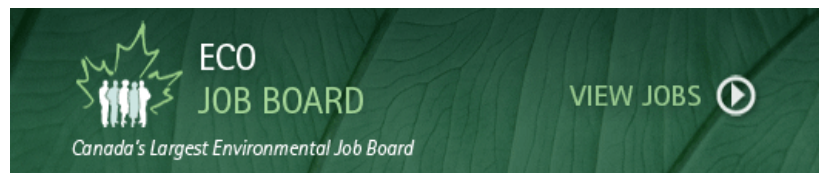
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[BioFuels International](#)

October 3-4 2011 - Calgary, AB

[EnerCan West](#)

Feb 13 & 14, 2012 - Regina, Sask



[View all jobs](#) | [Post a job](#)

Here are some of the jobs posted this month:



[Junior Environmental Consultant](#)

Edmonton AB  
Deadline: July 03, 2011



[Field and Staff Engineer](#)

Toronto ON  
Deadline: July 08, 2011



[Environmental Monitor](#)

Kitimat BC  
Deadline: July 10, 2011

For full details on the above positions and many more, visit the [ECO Job Board](#).

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