



June 2011

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Here are some of the jobs posted this month:



Junior Environmental Consultant
Calgary, AB
Deadline: July 3, 2011



Field and Staff Engineer
Toronto, ON
Deadline: July 8, 2011



Environmental Monitor
Kitimat, BC
Deadline: July 10, 2011



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A Note from the Editor

As summer approaches, as does the onset of various environmental issues to Canada, including uncontrollable forest fires.

In light of the devastating Slave Lake burn last month in Alberta, ECO Canada is exploring the environmental **effects of fire**, and prevention for outdoor enthusiasts.

We are also **highlighting cleanup coverage** of the Peace River oil spill.

In this issue you can also learn more about the **top five in-demand green jobs!**

Enjoy the read!

Kevin Nilsen
Director, Professional Services

ECO in the News

Oilpatch Recruiters Seeing Green; Environment part of boardroom culture
The Calgary Herald

ECO Canada Announces Official Certification in Meteorology
thegreenpages.ca

World's First ISO Accredited Greenhouse Gas Professional Certification
GLOBE-Net

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

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Smokey the Bear's Message Lives On (Continued)

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 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."



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

Ecosystem Changes After a Fire



The Burn



10 Days Later



30 Days Later



120 Days Later

*Photo credit to Alison Clark and Janine Mcleod

Five In-Demand Green Jobs

Looking to transition into the sector? Or just wanting a career change? Check out what environmental jobs are in-demand.

[Environmental Engineer](#)





With environmental issues at the forefront of Canada's economic priorities, there's an increased need for environmental engineers to develop sustainable methods of confronting environmental issues and reducing industrial impact throughout the environmental sector. Environmental engineers ensure that companies are in line with environmental regulations by inspecting facilities and conducting tests. They also ensure all private and public operations have thorough environmental protection plans. Environmental engineers may choose to specialize in a variety of areas, including waste management, pollution, remediation, public health, and global issues such as ozone depletion, global warming, and acid rain.

Those who pursue a career in this position help to develop sustainable methods of confronting environmental issues and reducing industrial impact.

Remediation Specialist

With growing concern for environmental protection and an increase in knowledge regarding the effects of industry contamination, the reclamation of polluted soil and groundwater has emerged as a top priority throughout the environmental sector. When landscapes are damaged by industry and contaminants, it's the job of remediation specialists to restore them back to their natural state. These individuals clean up destroyed and contaminated areas by collecting soil and groundwater samples, conducting inspections, and developing remediation plans.



Environmental Technician/Technologist



Environmental technicians aim to protect the environment and repair areas harmed by industry by determining the origin and environmental impact of pollutants and assessing levels of environmental contamination. They detect contaminated sites and pollutant trails through the collection of air, water, and soil samples.

Air Quality Technician/Technologist

Several factors in the environment can significantly contribute to air quality degradation. Pollutants from industry, human processes, and emergency situations can all significantly affect air quality and pose harmful environmental threats. It's the job of air quality technicians to examine changes in pollution and collect air quality samples in order to trace the root cause of pollutants.



Hydrologist

Water covers approximately 70% of the earth's surface and is responsible for shaping natural landscapes. Hydrology focuses on



most water-related aspects of the environment, including distribution, movement, and the physical properties of H₂O. Hydrologists examine the dramatic effects that water movement and precipitation can have on the natural environment and aid in the conservation of water by monitoring water usage and distribution. They often work within companies conducting studies to find new, more efficient ways of reducing environmental impact.

For more information on these and over 100 other environmental occupations, log in to the ECO Canada website at eco.ca/occupationalprofiles.

Top Employer of Environmental Professionals Leading Rainbow Pipeline Clean-up



The **28,000-barrel Rainbow Pipeline leak** northeast of Peace River, Alberta, launched an immediate emergency response to protect public safety and minimize environmental impacts. The 30-day construction, containment and cleanup operation now exceeds 95,000 staff hours. A cleanup of this nature requires the best emergency response personnel and qualified environmental professionals.

Roy Lamoreaux, Director Investor Relations with **Plains Midstream Canada** stated, "We have a full complement of specialists at the scene. We have secured all necessary people and equipment for our response and cleanup effort."

In the multi-disciplinary environmental sector, knowing the environmental capability of professionals with science, engineering and technological backgrounds can be difficult. How can stakeholders be confident the best professionals are working on the Rainbow Pipeline cleanup?

Plains Midstream Canada secured **CCS Corporation (CCS)** to manage the disposal of the oil-soaked soil and contaminated water from the spill. The CCS team has extensive experience with oil spills, including work on the **Gulf of Mexico spill**, and is Canada's leading employer of **certified Environmental Professionals (EPs)**.

Professionals awarded the **EP certification** are verified to meet, or exceed the industry-developed **National Occupational Standards** for environmental employment. EP certification is the only designation of its kind in Canada that provides professionals with **formal recognition of unique environmental competencies**.

CCS recognizes EP certification as an important way to demonstrate and verify the credibility and competency of its employees who specialize in protecting the environment and handling energy industry wastes. Experienced multi-disciplinary teams, like CCS', provide reassurance that the Rainbow Pipeline spill will be handled with a commitment to **environment, health and safety**.

As of 7 a.m. on June 1, it is thought that 45% of the original oil release has been recovered from the site. Extensive cleanup is still required and long-term monitoring activities are expected.

EP Profile of the Month

Sandra Tavares, B.Sc., M. Sc., EP (EMSLA)

We are pleased to profile Sandra Tavares, Principal of Tavares Group Consulting from Ontario. Tavares Group's **5th annual one-day session** is being offered September 21, 2011 to representatives involved in managing environmental compliance issues; attendees will fulfill ISO 14001 requirements, interact with six experts and earn CE Credits.

To attend, visit [the event registration page](#) and enter the ECO Canada discount code "**partnerrate**".



Sandra is a certified **Environmental Management System Lead Auditor**, and has conducted environmental and health & safety management system and compliance audits throughout North America. She is accredited by the **California Air Resources Board** as a **Greenhouse Gas Verifier**. Sandra is an active member of the Canadian Advisory Committees on Environmental Management and Social Responsibility. Sandra earned her M.Sc. (Plant Science / Environmental Science) from **UWO**, where she lectures annually within the **Masters of Environment & Sustainability program**.

What do you think are the biggest hurdles facing companies related to environmental legislation management?

The level and stringency of environmental legislation is increasing and can be daunting for those managing environmental issues. Additionally some organizations assign environmental compliance roles to employees unfamiliar with this subject matter (perhaps a result of budgetary issues) - this can become a liability issue. Environmental legislation awareness is essential to ask the right questions of experts to address specific environmental issues. These are reasons why we present our annual session on new, proposed and existing environmental legislation.

What's on the environmental legislation horizon that managers should know about?

In Ontario, the **Toxics Reduction Act** and **Greenhouse Gas legislation** are fairly new issues that organizations should be familiar with, especially since these issues are still evolving.

Sustainability is also evolving quickly (e.g. a growing number of organizations are demanding sustainability accounting from their supply chains) and is a key component to staying competitive. This is a concept that does not necessarily require a great deal of investment of time or capital. Building onto an organization's existing systems (e.g. **ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001**) to address core sustainability issues will enable the achievement of sustainability goals.

What advantages does a smaller consulting firm like Tavares Group Consulting Inc. offer to clients?

We provide unique, cost effective solutions that build onto a client's existing processes. We are also open to cross-disciplinary partnerships with other experts to create a strong, team which creates value for our clients.



What project in your firm's history are you proudest of and why?

Our involvement in the last revision of the **ISO 14001** environmental management system standard was rewarding and brought insight into the implementation and development of these programs.

Similarly, our work on the recently released **ISO 26000** should finally define what socially

responsible really means and expectations surrounding this issue. This guidance can be used for projects such as the [Sustainable Business and Efficiencies Project](#) for Huron County, Ontario recently awarded to Tavares and partner Kuzuka Inc., which involves working with local manufacturers to plan and implement sustainable business strategies through the development of a county-focused sustainable business toolkit.

What's your best piece of advice you offer right now?

Read [ISO 26000](#) - find out how all your processes interconnect. Break down silos (departments working on their own) - inefficiencies will be eliminated.



www.tavaresgroupconsulting.com

Founded in 2005 by Sandra Tavares, Tavares Group Consulting Inc. is a corporate social responsibility firm assisting businesses in their pursuit of sustainable development.

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

[IASTED International Conference 2011: Environmental Management and Engineering](#)

July 4-6, 2011 - Calgary, AB

[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

Enter the ECO Canada discount code 'partnerrate' for a special rate!

[BioFuels International](#)

October 3-4, 2011 - Calgary, AB

[EnerCan West](#)

Feb 13-14, 2012 - Regina, SK

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