

LEAD Canada training program gearing up for 2007

LEAD Canada will receive US\$30,000 in new funds from the LEAD Special Opportunities and Investment Fund in support of the re-launch of LEAD training in Canada, starting in 2007. The intent is to apply these funds for the detailed design, marketing, and sponsor recruitment associated with the Cohort 12 Fellows training program.

Assuming sufficient program funding is secured, we are looking to run the first residential training session of LEAD Canada C12 over late May and early June. The program would conclude with graduation of C12 Fellows at the next international training

session, to be held in Bali, Indonesia in November 2007.

This just in: HSBC Bank Canada has given verbal indication that LEAD Canada will receive \$30,000 in 2007 in support of the re-launch of LEAD training in Canada. This new Canadian partnership builds on the larger LEAD-HSBC partnership launched in June between LEAD International and HSBC Holdings plc. LEAD Canada is delighted with and very grateful for the support of HSBC Bank Canada. We look forward to working with bank personnel in an effort to promote and build sustainability in Canada.



LEAD Canada president Rob Rainer with guest speakers Mandeep Bains, policy advisor for the UN Millennium Campaign (NY), and Nayé Bathily, a LEAD Fellow from Senegal engaged in development policy with the World Bank (Paris). The occasion was the "Extreme Poverty, Deeper Resolve" workshop to help strengthen Canadian response to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) held May 5-7, 2006 at Ryerson University in Toronto. Organized by LEAD Canada and Unitera, with co-sponsorship from Nexen Inc., the workshop was one small step towards the ideal of a greater Canadian response to the Millennium Development Goals.

Polar Catalyst gets ready for launch with foundation support

LEAD Canada has spear-headed the conceptualization of a major initiative on climate change. We are pleased to announce that founding seed funding in support of this initiative has also been awarded. The Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation has approved CDN\$30,000 to Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Canada's national Inuit organization, which is a partner with

LEAD Canada and two other organizations in the project titled ***Polar Catalyst: Advancing Leadership for Climate Change Action.***

Funds will be used for detailed project design, marketing and sponsor recruitment. With sufficient funding, ***Polar Catalyst*** will feature a 12-day, ship-based expedition to the Arctic in the sum-

mer of 2008, followed by a year of post-expedition activity on new climate change action catalyzed by the expedition. Target participants will be from Canada and from countries whose decisions and actions will be especially pivotal for determining the magnitude of future climate change – namely the US, China, India, Brazil, Russia, the EU and Japan.

Leadership – having a *vision*, being able to *communicate* it, *build trust*, and *mobilize others* for collaborative action

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LEAD wants you!

As the headline on page one points out, LEAD Canada is getting back into the swing of things and that means not only keeping everyone up to date but also renewing efforts to facilitate networking. This newsletter is a modest start in that direction and our objective is to be short, sweet and simple—but on a regular basis. Better a couple of pages every month than a 56-page tome at the end of the year that nobody has the time or energy to wade through.

And, yes, you guessed it—the proverbial plea to do your part. News about you, your accomplishments, career changes, important issues as you see them. All we need is a few hundred words, just one page double-spaced is all it takes. A photo would be just dandy as well.

We're just an e-mail away: hugh@quanglo.ca

Books for the New Year

What books will you be reading as we enter 2007? For a sobering, enlightening and at times darkly humorous examination of perhaps the single greatest issue of our times, I recommend *Heat: How to Stop the Planet from Burning* by the celebrated British writer George Monbiot (2006, Doubleday Canada). And for other provocative reflections, check out his web site (www.monbiot.com) which is reputed to be “the most popular columnist’s web site on Earth, outside the United States.” - **Rob Rainer**

A book that takes a different perspective is *Fragile Earth: Views of a changing world* (2006, Collins). This pictorial essay contains over 200-pages of then and now photographs depicting how this planet is rapidly changing from both natural events (tsunamis) and made-made activities (smog). The contrasting landscapes are not just confined to disappearing glaciers and shrinking lakes but to the continued dense urban development along every piece of shoreline with a view and carrying capacity for yet another high-

rise building. It’s a fascinating snapshot of the world we inhabit and—trying to be positive—hopefully a useful benchmark that we can use to make the earth a less vulnerable place in which to live.—
Hugh Maynard

Your bestseller list?

Suggestions for favourite books, websites and programs are informative and useful for LEAD Fellows; send yours in—just a hundred words is all we need along with the publisher and date.