

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Canadian Environment Awards Announces Community Finalists and Lifetime Achievement Recipient**

OTTAWA, April 22, 2005 — The Canadian Environment Awards today announced the finalists for the 2005 Community Awards and the recipient of the Citation of Lifetime Achievement.

Inspired by the community-action objectives of Canadian Environment Week, which takes place this year from June 5 to 11, the Canadian Environment Awards is a national, bilingual celebration with three levels of recognition: Community Awards, Citation of Lifetime Achievement and The Green Team Challenge.

"I applaud the efforts of all Canadians who work in communities across the country to preserve and protect our natural heritage," said the Honourable Stéphane Dion, Minister of the Environment. "In particular, the finalists in this year's Canadian Environment Awards are to be commended for their efforts and the inspiration and leadership they provide. The Government of Canada shares that community spirit which we are promoting through Project Green, our comprehensive environmental vision aimed at supporting a sustainable environment and a more competitive economy so as to deliver cleaner air, safer water, better health and thriving communities."

The Community Awards is the flagship program of the Canadian Environment Awards. Now in its fourth year, this program celebrates 17 finalists who have been chosen by a panel of environmental luminaries (see attached) from nominations submitted by the Canadian public. "Each year, we're finding out what environmental issues Canadians care about," explains Rick Boychuk, chair of the selection panel. "The action they take at the community level shows leadership for the entire country."

Biographies of these finalists, representing six categories — Climate Change, Conservation, Environmental Health, Environmental Learning, Restoration and Rehabilitation, and Sustainable Living — have been published in digest-sized English and French magazines that will be distributed with Canadian Geographic, The Globe and Mail, Québec Science and La Presse.

The Canadian Environment Awards 2005 will also recognize David T. Suzuki, who has been selected as this year's recipient of the Citation of Lifetime Achievement. The first name in Canadian environmentalism, David Suzuki is an award-winning scientist, broadcaster, writer and activist, and the founder and president of the David Suzuki Foundation. "David Suzuki has taught us more than any other Canadian about the damaging impact of human activity on the natural world," says Boychuk. "But he has done much more than just alert us to the threat of environmental catastrophe. He has helped us imagine solutions for the future."

The highlight of the Canadian Environment Awards is the Awards Gala on Monday, June 6, marking the launch of Canada's Environment Week. The venue for this year's event is the Liberty Grand, Toronto, and the Honourable Stéphane Dion will deliver the opening remarks.

Each of the 17 Community Awards finalists will be recognized at the Awards Gala, and each gold award winner will receive \$5,000 to donate to the environmental cause of their choice. The centrepiece of the evening will be a keynote address delivered by David Suzuki. The Junior and Senior winners of The Green Team Challenge, which is the youth initiative of the Canadian Environment Awards, will also be announced.

The Canadian Environment Awards 2005 is a partnership between the Government of Canada and Canadian Geographic Enterprises, which manages the program and publishes the digests. The Canadian Environment Awards is also supported by 14 Canadian corporations. Shell Canada is the lead corporate sponsor. For complete details of the Canadian Environment Awards 2005, visit [www.canadiangeographic.ca/cea2005](http://www.canadiangeographic.ca/cea2005)

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## FINALISTS FOR THE CANADIAN ENVIRONMENT AWARDS 2005

### CITATION OF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

David T. Suzuki, scientist, broadcaster and founder and president of the David Suzuki Foundation, Vancouver, British Columbia

## COMMUNITY AWARDS FINALISTS 2005

### CLIMATE CHANGE

Brian McCarry, chair, Clean Air Hamilton, Hamilton, Ontario

Mow Down Pollution, lawn mower exchange program, Toronto, Ontario

### CONSERVATION

Nina Blussé Gould, Committee for the Protection of Patrimony for Nuns' Island, Montréal, Québec

Kawartha Highlands Local Stakeholder Committee, Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Provincial Park, Peterborough, Ontario

Wildsight, East Kootenay Environmental Society, Kimberley, British Columbia

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Sharon Batt, Drugs in Our Water campaign, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Laurie Hoekstra, activist and intervener opposing Sumas Energy 2, Abbotsford, British Columbia

Yuga Juma Onziga, founder, ECENECA — Environmental Centre for New Canadians, Toronto, Ontario

### ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING

Mary Ellen Grant, manager of education and volunteers, British Columbia Wildlife Park, Kamloops, British Columbia

Robert Litzler, Collège de Rosemont, Committee on Environmental Action & Dialogue, Montréal, Québec

North Vancouver Outdoor School, environmental education program facility, Brackendale, British Columbia

### RESTORATION & REHABILITATION

Stephen Hawboldt, executive director, Clean Annapolis River Project, Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia

Rick Martin, senior project adviser, Partners in Habitat Development, Brooks, Alberta

Ian Naisbitt, president, Little River Enhancement Group, Tecumseh, Ontario

### SUSTAINABLE LIVING

Action Communiterre, organic-food-production collective, Montréal, Québec

Canadian Association of Food Banks, thINK FOOD/Phones for Food, Toronto, Ontario

Lynn Oliphant, The Craik Sustainable Living Project, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

For complete details of the Canadian Environment Awards 2005, including The Green Team Challenge, visit [www.canadiangeographic.ca/cea2005](http://www.canadiangeographic.ca/cea2005)

## THE CANADIAN ENVIRONMENT AWARDS PANEL 2005

Rick Boychuk, Ottawa, Ontario

Panel chair and editor of Canadian Geographic, the country's leading environmental, natural history and earth-sciences publication

Jean-Marie Beaulieu, Chelsea, Québec

Geographer and ecologist at the Canadian Polar Commission

Lawrence Ignace, Ottawa, Ontario

Manager of the Environment Secretariat at the Assembly of First Nations

Ellen Kenchington, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Research scientist with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

Yanick Villedieu, Montréal, Québec

Journalist, author and host of la radio de Radio-Canada's "Les Années lumière"

Eveline Wolterson, Vancouver, British Columbia

President of EvEco Consultants Ltd. and adviser to private and government sectors in agriculture, forestry, mining and urban development