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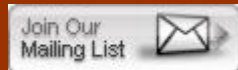
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We love to receive your feedback and comments, drop us a line if you have a story suggestion or comments.

[Kelly Johnson, St. Clair RAP Coordinator](#)

[Ken Hall, FOSCR Webmaster](#)

Help FOSCR delist the St. Clair River

Friends of the St. Clair River is a registered Canadian charitable organization. Your financial support for our programs will help FOSCR progress towards delisting the St. Clair River as an Area of Concern in the Great Lakes.

Contributions can be sent to:

Mr. Terry Burrell
Friends of the St. Clair River
514 Christina Street North
Sarnia, ON N7T 5W4

All donations will receive a tax receipt.

Call **Terry** at 519-336-5545 for more information,

PLEASE join us.

St. Clair River BPAC Canadian Co-Chair Kris Lee Among Those Honoured by CIAC in 2017



Photo courtesy of CIAC, October 18 2017, Ottawa

The *Chemistry Industry Association of Canada* (CIAC) has announced the winners of its annual Merit and Chair's Awards, recognizing leaders in Canada's chemistry industry. The awards ceremony was held at The Westin Ottawa on October 17, 2017.

"These awards recognize individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the work CIAC does on behalf of the industry, who are committed to living the ethics and principles of [Responsible Care](#)[®] - and who play an integral part in the successes the Association celebrates," says Bob Masterson, President and CEO of CIAC, and "they deserve to be recognized for their efforts."

This year's winners are:

CHAIR'S AWARD

Dave Emerson, President and COO, CCC Group

Dave received this award for his help in molding the strategic direction of CIAC through his 11-year service on the Association's Board of Directors, and his personal commitment to CIAC's [TRANSCAER](#)[®] initiative. CIAC recognized his efforts to rally his peers to do what was needed to put this outreach activity on a sustainable footing.

MERIT AWARDS

Mike Drumm, HSSE Country Lead, Shell Chemicals

Mike was recognized for his continual involvement with CIAC, including with the Multi-Association Committee on the Transportation of Dangerous Goods, the National and Prairie Regional [TRANSCAER](#)[®] committees, the Safety and Health Analysis, Recognition and Exchange ([SHARE](#)) network and the Transportation Emergency Assistance [Program \(TEAP III\)](#).

Dwight Este, EHSS Area Manager, LANXESS Canada

Dwight received this award for his 30-year commitment to the Elmira, Ontario site now operated by LANXESS, a site that stands as a case study of both the need for, and benefits of [Responsible Care](#)[®].

Ken Faulkner, Director of Government Relations, NOVA Chemicals

Ken was given this award for his role as a respected voice for NOVA -- and the industry -- with the federal, Alberta and Ontario governments on issues related to growth and competitiveness.

Kris Lee, Lee Environmental Education & Consulting

Kris received this award for her dedication to ensuring that industry, in particular [Responsible Care](#)[®]; companies, meet their commitments to the local community and environment.

Lorna Young, TechWorks

Though she officially retired in May of 2016, Lorna was given this award for her long-standing commitment to [Responsible Care](#)[®]; and her work with CIAC, including with the Stewardship Task Force, [TRANSCAER](#)[®] and the Process Safety Network.

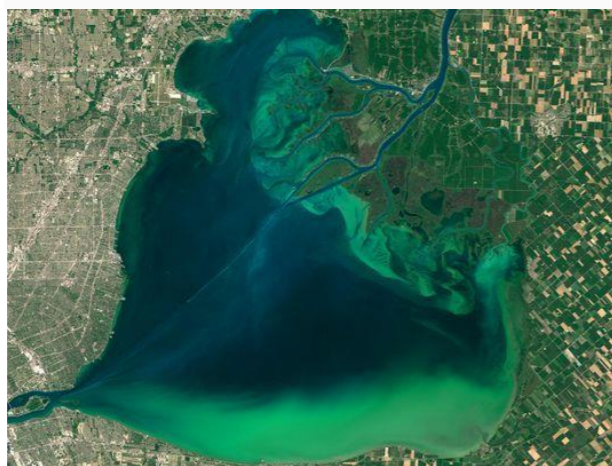
The Board of Directors of CIAC congratulates all the well-deserving award recipients.

The Chemistry Industry Association of Canada (CIAC) is the voice of Canada's \$53 billion chemistry industry and represents more than 50 members and partners across the country. Members of CIAC are signatories to [Responsible Care](#)[®]; - the Association's U.N.-recognized sustainability initiative.

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U.S. Senate Approves Legislation to Combat Great Lakes Algal Blooms

Reprinted from the Port Huron Times Herald Published Sept. 28, 2017



The U.S. Senate has approved bipartisan legislation to protect the Great Lakes from algal blooms, according to a news release from Sen. Gary Peters' office.

Peters helped introduce The Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act. It will reauthorize federal efforts to combat the negative impacts algal blooms have on drinking water, recreation and fishing in the Great Lakes including Lakes Erie and St. Clair.

"The Great Lakes provide drinking water to over 40 million people and are the center of Michigan's multi-billion dollar fishing, shipping and tourism industries," said Peters in the news release. "This bipartisan legislation will continue providing the necessary resources to address harmful algal blooms and the significant burdens they place on coastal communities in Michigan and across the country and ensure the Great

Lakes are protected for future generations."

Lake Erie is the water source for the South County Water District, which provides drinking water to southern Monroe County, Michigan. In August 2014, nearly 30,000 customers in Monroe County were affected by a water use ban due to contaminants from toxins produced by algal blooms in Lake Erie.

Blue-green algae produce microcystins, toxins that in large quantities can cause skin rashes on contact and liver damage when swallowed. Microcystins have been responsible for wildlife and pet deaths, but no known human deaths, according to a report from the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment.

A blue-green algae bloom in 2014 forced Toledo to issue a boil-water or do-not-drink advisory to about 500,000 people.

The Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act:

- Reauthorizes the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act, which has served as the primary federal

- tool to combat algae blooms since its enactment in 1998, through Fiscal Year 2022;
- Adds the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to the Federal Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia, which is responsible for addressing federal response to algae bloom incidents; and
- Requires a scientific assessment report submitted to Congress on marine and freshwater harmful algae blooms, including in the Great Lakes.

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Great Lakes Lakewide Action and Management Plans 2017 Annual Reports Available Online

The 2017 Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP) Annual Reports for lakes [Superior](#), [Michigan](#), [Huron](#), [Erie](#) and [Ontario](#) have just been published.

The 2017 LAMP annual reports highlight accomplishments and progress in achieving LAMP goals during the past year, and identify LAMP-related activities including outreach, monitoring, protection and restoration actions. Lakewide Action and Management Plans are developed and implemented for each Great Lake. Each Lake Partnership facilitates information sharing, sets priorities, and assists in coordinating binational environmental protection and restoration activities as prescribed in the Lakewide Management Annex of the [2012 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement](#).

For more information, visit [Binational.net](#).

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FOSCR Receives Thanks for Support of ALUS Lambton



Ontario NativeScape would like to thank **Friends of the St. Clair River** for your financial support towards the **ALUS Lambton Program**. The ALUS Lambton Program focuses on improvements to environmentally sensitive, marginal or inefficient farmland throughout Lambton County, including the St. Clair River Area of Concern. Types of projects created and or enhanced include: Riparian Habitat; Wetland Habitat; Grassland Habitat and Forest Habitat.

The ALUS Lambton Program began in 2015 and is affiliated and supported by a national not-for-profit organization - ALUS Canada, a Weston Family Initiative. To-date, with the help of all our project partners including Friends of the St. Clair River, we have implemented 68 projects and enhanced 244 acres throughout Lambton! These projects took place on various farmers and ranchers properties that contributes towards producing cleaner air, cleaner water, wildlife habitat and other ecosystem services in our community.

Brief Background on the ALUS Program

Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) has a simple, yet revolutionary goal...create a healthy landscape that sustains agriculture, wildlife and natural spaces for all Canadians.

ALUS is a community developed, farmer delivered program that gives Canadians the opportunity to play an active role in building a healthier environment by providing support to farmers and ranchers to enhance and maintain ecosystem services.

Ontario NativeScape has partnered with ALUS Canada to form ALUS Lambton. Ontario NativeScape is administering the ALUS Lambton program and is led by a Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC). The PAC has a strong representation of local agricultural producers and local landowners throughout Lambton County, and other stakeholder groups including the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and Ducks Unlimited Canada. PAC members provide advice and community input into the decision-making process that shapes how alternative land use services are delivered and helps prioritize project implementation and development.

ALUS works in collaboration with the farmer and local conservation partners to create, enhance, conserve and manage on-the-ground habitat conservation projects. If interested in participating in the ALUS Lambton program, the producer submits an expression of interest to ALUS Lambton (Ontario NativeScape), which is then reviewed for adherence to the ALUS principles, local goals and priorities.



ALUS Canada Priority Targets

- Improvements to environmentally-sensitive, marginal or inefficient farm land;
- Enhancing natural features contained within the farmed portion of the land;
- Associations or complexes of wetlands, riparian zones and grassed uplands on and adjacent to selected parcels of farmland;
- Working lands and adjacent areas with special biodiversity features or ecological assets/opportunities.

ALUS Lambton is a multi-partner stewardship initiative and would not be possible without the support from all of our project partners including: ALUS Canada, a Weston Family Initiative; Ducks Unlimited Canada; Eco Action; Friends of the St. Clair River; Great Lakes Sustainability Fund; Grain Farmers of Ontario – District 3 Lambton, Lambton Upland Game Bird, National Farmers Union, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Species at Risk Program; Ontario Nature, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Private Landowners; Recreational Fisheries Conservation Partnership Program, and St. Clair Region Conservation Authority.

Again, we would like to thank **Friends of the St. Clair River** for your support and hope your organization continues to support ALUS Lambton in the future. Together we can make a difference!

Lindsay Buchanan

Land Stewardship Manager

Ontario NativeScape a division of Rural Lambton Stewardship Network

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SLEA Responds to Global News after Sarnia-Lambton Focus of Biased Media Reports

Dear Editor – Global News

Over the past few years, members of the Sarnia-Lambton Environmental Association (SLEA) have been working to address concerns at Aamjiwnaang First Nation. Through these efforts, we have all developed a deeper understanding of the community. We have also learned some members of this community have endured tragic personal family circumstances. We share the following information with respect and sensitivity for the significant losses felt within the Aamjiwnaang community.

There is some additional information we believe the public will find valuable, that was not included in the final investigative project on Sarnia's environmental performance by reporters from Global News, the Toronto Star, the National Observer and several Canadian universities. Below are some points which were presented to the reporters by SLEA during my interview:

- SLEA and its industry members have committed funding for external health research and we continue to fully support additional study.
- SLEA has been monitoring air quality in the Sarnia area for more than 65 years. • We operate an extensive network of ambient air quality monitoring stations through a third-party environmental specialist. We welcome questions from the public and share information with the community.
- All SLEA members are committed to working toward better transparency of air monitoring data and continue to work with all local stakeholders to provide real-time air monitoring data.
- Scientific monitoring data from SLEA shows a trend of consistent improvement over the past 10 years (2006 to 2016), including benzene emissions which have decreased by 18 per cent. Sarnia's benzene levels are not significantly different than other industrialized Canadian centres (Environment Canada, National Air Pollution Surveillance).
- Ontario has set a benzene limit that is 20 times lower than the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's benzene threshold. SLEA members are committed to continuing their ongoing efforts to reduce emissions.
- Industry in Sarnia is creating new systems for fence-line monitoring, leak detection and repair, waste water monitoring, tank monitoring and inspection, and product loading limits.

The stories about Sarnia last weekend (October 14) also address emergency response communications with the public. It is important to note that community members in the region have several information sources from which they can access real time updates on potential issues. These tools include the "My Community Notification Network" system, telephone lines and

information bulletins in local media.

In summary, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on the very complex, important and sensitive discussion regarding industrial air emissions in Sarnia. Industries in Sarnia take environmental performance seriously. Together, we have demonstrated emissions reductions and we remain committed to continually improving our environmental performance, and to working with Aamijwnaang First Nation and local residents to build a healthier, more vibrant community for all.

Dean Edwardson
General Manager
Sarnia Lambton Environmental Association
General Manager
Community Awareness Emergency Response

The Sarnia-Lambton Environmental Association or "SLEA" is a non-profit co-operative comprised of 20 industrial manufacturers in the Sarnia-Lambton area of Southwestern Ontario. The SLEA monitors ambient environmental conditions to assess the impact of its members on the local environment (air, water and soil). Established in 1952, the SLEA has been monitoring local environmental conditions for over 50 years. Part of the SLEA mandate is to share this information with government agencies and the Sarnia-Lambton community.

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9th Annual Chatham-Kent & Lambton Children's Water Festival Makes a Splash

Submitted by the Chatham-Kent & Lambton Children's Water Festival Committee



Local Sarnia area schools and other schools along the St. Clair River were fortunate to attend the 9th Annual Chatham-Kent & Lambton Children's Water Festival thanks to support from the Friends of the St. Clair River. Over 200 Sarnia – Lambton elementary students joined over 1000 other elementary students at the 3-day festival. The festival provides hands on / interactive learning opportunities through a series of 40+ educational activity stations around the themes of water conservation, water science, water attitude and technology. This is an outdoor festival set up on a 6-acre grassed and pond area in the day use area of C.M. Wilson Conservation Area.

"This is a community wide, multi-partner initiative involving over 30 different partnership groups from across the Lambton and Chatham-Kent areas. They deliver this fun and educational event to a growing number of elementary students each year," according to Don Hector, the Festival Coordinator. "The Festival provides leadership opportunities to over 300 high school students who assist in the presentation of the water festival activities, including a French day instructed by local French students. It also provides an opportunity for the community to learn about and enjoy the long-term benefits of protecting our precious water resources." The festival activities portray a balanced mix of urban and rural scenarios around water and challenges students to think about their own actions and how they can bring these messages back to their homes and communities in which they live.



To date over 13,000 elementary students from the Lambton and Chatham-Kent areas have attended this popular annual event. The 10th annual festival will be held Oct. 1 to 3, 2019. For more information go to www.ckwaterfest.com

<http://www.friendsofstclair.ca/>

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BPAC is a community-based partnership including governments, industry, first nations, academia, as well as environmental organizations and private citizens that work collectively in helping to improve the health of the St. Clair River. Our key goal is to implement the Canadian Remedial Action Plan (RAP) in order to restore the beneficial uses and remove the River from the list of Great Lakes Areas of Concern.



This E-Newsletter is produced with support from the Ontario Ministry of the Environment