

On-line Community of Practice (CoP) for Climate Change Education

New Brunswick Environmental Network

About the New Brunswick Environmental Network

The New Brunswick Environmental Network (NBEN), established in 1991, is a non-profit communications network that links together over 100 non-profit environmental organizations in New Brunswick. The role of the NBEN is to improve communication and co-operation among environmental groups and between these groups, government and other sectors. The NBEN provides educational opportunities for its member and associate groups and encourages the growth of the environmental movement in New Brunswick. The NBEN is not an advocacy group and does not take positions on any issue.

Overview

The goal of this project is to build teachers' and educators' capacity to teach climate change. This project supports the New Brunswick Climate Change Action Plan (2016), in particular goal #9 which is to: Incorporate climate change into education at all levels, including experiential learning and connecting learners with climate change initiatives in their local communities. Objectives of the project include:

1. Development of a Climate Change Education Community of Practice (CCECOP) in New Brunswick
2. Capacity-building for teaching climate change in New Brunswick's post-secondary institutions
3. Development of curriculum resources and supports for climate resiliency, climate adaptation, natural infrastructure, ecosystem services & sustainable living.
4. Professional learning for K-12 teachers

Target Audience

The primary users of CoP will be:

- Teachers
- Professors
- Other educators, e.g. parks facilitators and outdoor educators
- School and program administrators, e.g. principals

Initially, most of the users of the online platform will be from New Brunswick, but the capacity to expand it across Canada and beyond will be an important feature.

Detailed Description

The purpose of the project is to develop an online platform for knowledge-sharing, networking and conducting discussions among diverse stakeholders. The following is a description of what is to be included in the online interface:

- Resources section for links to other websites, funding programs and to share documents.
- Call for Knowledge Forum for members to post messages.
- Newsfeed-Ability for members to post news.
- Calendar-Ability to post upcoming events such as trainings and webinars.
- Access to the past Webinars or video recordings.
- Newsletter-Optional subscription.
- E-mail Notifications about new Posts-Optional Subscription, limit to number of mails/month.
- Member Profile- a) Name, title, organization, location, field of work which is searchable.
- Private messaging between members.
- Ability to track user stats.
- Ability to connect with a social media platform – Facebook/Instagram/Twitter

Scope of Work & Technical Requirements

Phase 1-

- Researching and finalizing the details of the online platform which includes the following:
 - Bilingual framework (An English version and a French version that can be easily toggled back and forth; content posted by members will appear in the language posted. The NBEN will provide translations of text as needed.)
 - Interactive map (already created) for CoP1
 - Search function
 - Call for knowledge forum
 - Calendar
 - Membership, member profiles and private messaging between members
 - Users' ability to post materials (via member login)
 - Possibly uses at least one of the platforms already used by the NBEN
 - Joomla! (used for www.nben.ca, the [Eco-Forum](#), and the [Eco-Community](#))
 - CiviCRM (used for our contact database, [Green Pages](#), and [Earth Ed](#))
 - Attractive and user-friendly look and feel

Phase 2-

- Development of a fully-functional on-line platform determined during Phase 1.

Phase 3-

- Testing and feedback on on-line platform to ensure functionality.
- Finalization and launch of platform.

Principal Point of Contact

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