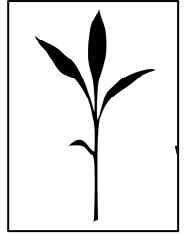


NATURE'S WAY

Canadian Organic Growers—NB Chapter
Issue 5—Autumn 2007



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COG-NB News...

It's harvest season in full swing! Read below to find out what the COG-NB Chapter is up to.

GROWING UP ORGANIC—CHAPTER PROJECT



Do you have a vision for getting locally-produced, organic food to the children in your community? COG National has spearheaded the "Growing Up Organic" initiative—a Canada-wide project to bring organic foods to our most vulnerable citizens: our children. COG has broken down GUO funding into mini-grants for chapters and other groups to design and implement a project in their region. Projects have taken on many different designs—this flexibility ensures that projects meet the unique challenges and advantages of their areas. Read more about current GUO projects on the COG National website: www.cog.ca. The COG-NB Chapter aims to enter the second round for mini-grants from National, with plans to submit a letter of intent by October 1st, 2007. We are currently accepting ideas from chapter members and friends to formulate a successful project in NB. Get in touch with our GUO Committee leader Serge La Rochelle by e-mail: monsieurserge@hotmail.com.

COG-NB BECOMES NBEN MEMBER

After little deliberation, it was decided by our chapter steering committee that COG-NB should apply for membership to the New Brunswick Environment Network (NBEN). The NBEN is a clearing-house organization that provides a virtual meeting place for environmentally-focused groups in our province. The NBEN sends out updated information about the management of our natural resources, from a political scope to grassroots action, linking groups that are working in a similar scope. For our \$35 annual fee, the NBEN provides our chapter with weekly e-mail updates to their website news, access to their AV lending library, access to their events postings, and voting privileges at their annual meetings. For more information about the NBEN, please visit their website: www.nben.ca/nben_index.htm. If you would like to be forwarded the weekly NBEN e-mail updates, please add your name to the list by e-mailing Andrea: hopeseed@nbnet.nb.ca.

Who Are We? 2007 Steering Committee

COG-NB is a member-supported organic advocacy and public education group promoting organic food, as an extension of COG National. Our members are from around the province, and from many different aspects of the organic scene. For more info and to get involved, contact COG-NB's steering committee members:

Andrea Berry—Chapter Chair:

Tel: 246-5570 E-mail: hopeseed@nbnet.nb.ca

Serge La Rochelle—Secretary:

Tel: 382-3133 E-mail: monsieurserge@hotmail.com

Beryl de Beaupré—Treasurer:

Tel: 375-4574 E-mail: beryl_de_beaupre@hotmail.com

Shannon Herbert—Chapter Rep to National:

Tel: 375-9006 E-mail: shannon@fallsbrookcentre.ca

Visit COG-NB on-line and complete our member survey!
Make this chapter work for you! WWW.COG.CA\NB\INDEX.HTM

COG-NB CO-HOSTS USC TOUR: SEPT 14-16

Back in March, Andrea was at the Atlantic Canadian Organic Regional Network (ACORN) annual conference, with a booth at their Seedy Saturday. In between the many questions and queries from seed savers that attended the event, she got the chance to visit the USC booth across the room. USC (formerly the Unitarian Service Committee of Canada—now no longer affiliated with the Unitarian church) is a very interesting organization that promotes vibrant family farms, strong rural communities, and healthy ecosystems around the world. Largely their work is done in developing countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia, working with subsistence farmers and grassroots agricultural organizations to support programs, training, and policies that strengthen biodiversity, food sovereignty, and the rights of those at the heart of resilient food systems - women, indigenous peoples, and small-scale farmers.

In Canada, USC has been on the forefront in the **"Ban Terminator" campaign**—supporting farmers in the fight to keep the seed sterilization GMO technology patented by Monsanto out of our fields. A new project—the **Seed Map**—is a teaching tool available for free (!) to anyone interested in sharing the wonder about the origin of the world's major foods and seed crops. In developing countries, USC is active through the **"Seeds of Survival" project**, that works to empower agricultural communities by using farmer-led research and knowledge in local-scale plant breeding and community seed banks.

Finding many similarities between the efforts of USC and COG, our chapter has been working with a few key individuals to bring USC to NB. Kate Green, USC's Manager of Public Engagement and North/South Relations, will be visiting NB on a whirlwind tour this month. Try to work a visit with Kate into your harvest calendar—she's got lots of inspiration, photos and stories to share!



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th: St. Thomas University, Fredericton, 1-4 pm

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th: Sussex Harvest Fair, Sussex, 10 am—2 pm

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th: NBEN Annual General Meeting, St. John, 4 pm—evening

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th: Fredericton Unitarian Congregation, Fredericton, 11 am

For more information about USC, visit their website: www.usc-canada.org. For more info about the tour dates and locations, contact Andrea: 246-5570 or hopeseed@nbnet.nb.ca.

UPCOMING COG-NB EVENTS:

SUSSEX HARVEST FAIR, Agricultural Museum of New Brunswick, 28 Perry St., Sussex PH: 433-6799

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th

10 AM—2 PM

We'll be sharing an information booth with USC taking part in the harvest festivities. For more info, contact Serge La Rochelle: 382-3133 or monsieurserge@hotmail.com

NBEN ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY, Saint John

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th—SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th

COG-NB will become an official member of the NBEN at their business meeting on Saturday morning, and will have an information booth up all weekend. This AGA is packed full of interesting speakers, activities, nature walks and political talks. For more information about this public event, visit the NBEN website: www.nben.ca/nben_index.htm

COG-NB CHAPTER—ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, Memramcook

MARCH 2008 (Specific date TBA)

We'll be holding our chapter AGM in conjunction with the Atlantic Canadian Organic Regional Network (ACORN) annual conference. This is a great opportunity to meet chapter members and take advantage of this staple organic event for the Atlantic provinces. For more info about the ACORN conference visit www.acornorganic.org.