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**COMMITTEE: SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

**Monday, November 15, 2004**

**SUBJECT(S) BEFORE THE COMMITTEE:**

Presentations in Response to Call for Public Input on Climate Change.

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**COMMITTEE**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Wayne Collins, Chair  
Wes MacAleer  
Hon. Chester Gillan  
Jim Bagnall  
Carolyn Bertram

**ABSENT:** Wilfred Arsenault  
Helen MacDonald  
Richard Brown

**GUESTS:** Part I - Youth Committee of the PEI Climate Change Hub  
Part II - Youth Environmental Network  
Part III - Charlottetown Rural High School

**STAFF:** Marian Johnston (Committee Clerk)  
  
Erin Swansburg

**Special Committee on Climate Change**  
**Monday, November 15, 2004**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Part I - Youth Committee of the PEI Climate Change Hub: Daniel Gaudet**

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** It's one minute past seven o'clock and we do want to start on time and I want to welcome all our committee members here to the Special Committee on Climate Change and this evening we have three presentations in store. First of all, I'm going to welcome to the table a representative of the Youth Committee of the PEI Climate Change Hub and later on, we'll hear from a representative of the Youth Environmental Network and a little later, we'll be joined by students from Charlottetown Rural High School. I am so pleased that the youth are represented here this evening and I want to thank representative Carolyn Bertram for the suggestion that we do reach out to the youth of Prince Edward Island and we're very anxious to hear some of the ideas you have on the meeting of the challenges of climate change here in our Island home. So with that, I'm going to turn things over, I believe, to Daniel Gaudet, you're going to be the first presenter, is that correct?

**Daniel Gaudet:** That's correct.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Alright Sir, go right ahead.

**Daniel Gaudet:** So I'm here on behalf of the Youth Committee of the Climate Change Hub and I guess I'll start by just backing up and explaining what that is. First of all, the Climate Change Hub is a project. It's sponsored by the PEI EcoNet which is a non-governmental organization which has the mandate to basically be the umbrella group for all the different environmental groups on the Island, and they're funded federally, provincially and one of the projects that they have anyway, along with SEA which is the Southeast Environmental Association is this Climate Change Hub.

Climate Change Hubs exist in several different provinces. They have counterparts. I think, if there's a province missing, it's--well for various reasons but not because they're not trying to establish them and in different provinces, they'd be partnered up with different kinds of NGO's, but here on the Island it just happens that they're

partnered, I mean, not partnered with but they're a project of the PEI EcoNet and SEA, the Southeast Environmental Association.

Now, the Climate Change Hub is basically climate change centered so it ties in perfectly with what you're doing in terms of what you're doing--I understand the public outreach aspect of climate change is an area that first of all, is important; and second of all, probably needs more exposure anyway on PEI. And a great way to do that is the Climate Change Hub. It's like a clearing house of information available to the public, just resources and they promote themselves which means they talk about climate change all the time.

I don't want to get tied down on this explanation because I want to get right to what I wanted to talk about. But basically, the Climate Change Hub then has two committees - the Advisory Board which were right there from the start. They're kind of like the charter members. They helped to create it. They're the sponsors and the Youth Committee. Now the Youth Committee is interesting because they identified youth as being, I think, well along with two others probably the most important and easiest to start with, group of people like municipalities and other NGO's would be the two others.

Target audience - youth - makes sense because climate change is going to play a bigger role in their lives than it probably has in previous generations obviously, already maybe is. They might be more aware than people give them credit for but they need a resource here on the Island and frankly, there probably wasn't one like this before and it started in the spring of 2003. They basically went out to the schools and said, look, we're interested in forming a youth committee for the Climate Change Hub and they got together. A bunch of students then for a weekend and trained them to go out and train others. That was the initial plan. It didn't work out that great, to tell you the truth.

The students had a hard time going out from this weekend where they came out completely motivated. They went back to their schools though

and they found that in the schools there wasn't the interest in climate change maybe or whatever. For whatever reasons, it fizzled out. But the nice thing about it was all the students that had an interest were identified as being a great resource to form a committee and they did. It took awhile, almost a year, before they actually said, okay, we're going to form a committee. Before that, they were just an informal bunch of teenagers to under 30 and that's what we call youth for now. That's why I'm here.

But anyway, the committee was formed. I think the first meeting of the actual committee was in May 2004 of this year. I was there and there was about a dozen of us and the first two things that we did this year anyway was arrange a workshop which is coming up actually, the 20<sup>th</sup> this weekend. I have some handouts about those. And the other thing was a ZINE which is a kind of a term they use for a self-published magazine and that's going to be published, several hundred copies and it's all been made by local Island youth contributing stories and artwork, not so much a facts and figures kind of a publication. More of a forum for youth to express their feelings about climate change which we thought was ideal and this is coming out of the youth committee, just something—probably the best way to attract other youths which is what we want to do—to the cause of climate change would be to give them something that (a) look like they could take part easily.

So it didn't have to be complicated and it didn't have to be academic. It was just something they could have fun with and that's it; (b) get involved. You hear so much about do something all the time and like most kids, if you want to use that word, can't make real choices about saving the environment. They can't choose the car. The household's got the driver out, no matter what their opinion is so they want to do something? They come to the Youth Committee of the Climate Change Hub, do all kinds of activities all the time, I mean, within reason.

We do whatever we can and those volunteers that come to the youth committee find out about other things too, because we end up meeting other people at the EcoNet office which going back to the beginning is this umbrella group for all the different environmental groups on the Island get together. It exposes youths to a lot of other opportunities and things like the projects where they go and they test tire inflation and things like that for fuel efficiency at

Canadian Tire or wherever. Little projects anyway, to go out into the community. I think anyway, it's a great way as far as promotion goes at the grassroots level. Something definitely that should be funded, we think we're doing it in an effective way already.

So that's what I put forward anyway would be, we would like to continue to have a secure kind of funding which opens up a whole kinds of things that—when we're working on project to project like this, we can't plan for two years in the future. We have to continually jump from project to project. It's hard to know how much funding we'll have from one year to the next. It's what I put forward, I suppose.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Alright Mr. Gaudet, I want to thank you very much. I know we have questions for you because I've got a few. But I'm going to defer to my colleagues here who may have some questions about the work of the youth committee through the Climate Change Hub and I will be taking a list here in order. Honourable Chester Gillan, would you like to begin?

**Honourable Chester Gillan (PC):** Thanks Mr. Chair. Daniel, once again thank you for making the presentation. As a former high school teacher, I can certainly identify with you in that it's difficult to get the masses to appreciate the severity and the affects of climate change. Have you thought of any ways or means that you would like to and don't let funds limit you but just the range of your imagination, what you might want to try in the future to try to get the attention of the youth and it doesn't necessarily have to be at the high school age?

**Daniel Gaudet:** Well it's a good question. Like I said, the two things, the initiatives we had this year are almost done. We're finished with the planning and they're happening right now. One is the ZINE is being published. The other is the workshops happening, first, practical things. I think we need to build (Indistinct) kind of whatever with the different schools so that first of all, we have that audience if you want to call them that. But they are kind of a target audience. They're right there, they're in schools.

Yeah, if anything can be done to help out with that. I mean I don't know what funds are needed. I don't know if funds are needed for something like that or

just.

**Honourable Chester Gillan (PC):** I think sometimes you can use some funds, some dollars to get something started but if you depend upon funds although you're never going to be able to get a whole lot done. If I might be so bold, Mr. Chair, as to suggest that the science curriculums now are very rich in sustainability, in resources, environmental activities and you might make yourselves as the hub available for speakers. Because again, we have a couple of teachers here on this panel and it's always great to have a stranger or outsider to come in to give the same message that the classroom teacher is often giving and when they hear through another individual, through a different voice, sometimes it makes a greater impact. So that would be one area that is as leaders in the hub itself, is to make yourself available for contact with the schools.

**Daniel Gaudet:** I would only add to that I suppose the questions and as those people who go into the schools, how do you get them? And if the only, they're people too, working contract to contract, we want the best people as a resource if you want to go out in the community and present these things. So it goes back to just a kind of need for just security, financially to attract, keep the people because in the short time that I've been involved around this group, a couple of people had to leave. Well they didn't have to leave but they just worked there for one year and they got another job.

**Honourable Chester Gillan (PC):** You have a very good individual with David Boyce from SEA and he will have great ideas and following his example, I'm sure that you will have affect on your audience. Thank you Mr. Chair.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** May I just ask a very quick question before I pass onto one of my colleagues, but you talk about this ZINE. Is this more than on line? Is this a hard copy coming out?

**Daniel Gaudet:** Well I have a copy of it here, but just one. It actually is coming out though like I say on Wednesday or Thursday, I'm not sure which one. It's just paper. It's going to be like a 12-page newsletter that's going to be put out.

**Marian Johnston (Committee Clerk):** I'll get it photocopied, Mr. Chairman.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Great, thank you very much.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** And how will that be distributed, that ZINE?

**Daniel Gaudet:** Well just by the volunteers from the youth committee will walk around town with them, basically, and ask different shops whether they can put them there, usually coffee places where people read. But also UPEI and Holland College, and not so much the out, well the high schools only in so much as what the students we have that are involved with the youth committee. They'll bring them to their high schools but we don't have any bigger plan than that.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** If I understood during your presentation there, this ZINE is kind of meant to be - No. 1 - a fun publication but it's not, it's meant to try to attract and draw in youth to the whole issue of climate change. Could you tell us a little bit more about the content of that newsletter?

**Daniel Gaudet:** Well that was the thing with it - to attract submissions for the first one, we had to leave the question of what content was going to be in it, pretty open. So we just said, express and again too, we didn't, I didn't focus it to climate change. Basically, it was the issues in the world that surround whatever system is—you know, if to blame for climate change. You know, what you hear about it all the time. Obviously, it's tied into what people are doing in the world and you have a feeling about that too. It's really all over the place.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Future content, I presume, will be dictated by the response you receive from this. . .

**Daniel Gaudet:** Absolutely, yeah.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** May I also ask you very briefly, and you said you had a presentation or some information about the upcoming workshop you called it, on the 20<sup>th</sup>?

**Daniel Gaudet:** Right.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Could you give us a bit of an overview of what you're going to be doing in discussing there at that?

**Daniel Gaudet:** Well perhaps you remember last year, we were lucky enough to get David Susuki to come to the Island and it was our fundraiser essentially for the hub. This year, we've got someone else and that's the thing, I've been less involved with that so I should get the actual brochures to tell you. We have a speaker and we're charging about 50, I think, people to come. Again mostly youths, all youths. It's being put out by the youth committee. They arranged all of the—you know, drawing of the budget and arranging for, but it's basically going to be a night with a speaker and then a dance afterward and it's a fundraiser.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** When will that be taking place, Daniel? I've got too many questions.

**Daniel Gaudet:** (Indistinct) just it's actually taking place in the Keir Gallery on Richmond Street and there will be three speakers. One of the speakers is Anne Thompson. She works with the Falls Brook Centre in New Brunswick. She's going to be talking about capitalism versus consumerism. There's going to be myself. I'll be representing the Youth Environmental Network and I'll be talking about food production in climate change. And there will also be Katherine Clough from—I think you might be familiar with her—she's from the Department of Environment and Energy and she'll be giving a talk on a project that she worked with, I think it was in the early 70's, the Human Ark.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Alright, just for the record, that was Jason Kun. Jason will be our next presenter on another matter. Are there other questions from our committee members, Mr. MacAleer?

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** Yes, I was just wondering Daniel, could you just tell us who you are? Are you a student? Are you working or what?

**Daniel Gaudet:** Well how I got involved and who I am. I'm not a student. I mean I work. I have a job but my job last year was a one-year contract working with SEA and the Southeast Gulf of St. Lawrence Mining Basin and so I was in that office for 10 months.

**Jim Bagnall (PC):** In Montague?

**Daniel Gaudet:** Sorry?

**Jim Bagnall (PC):** In Montague?

**Daniel Gaudet:** No, here in Charlottetown on Richmond Street. I got to know everyone there and so whenever I left, I said I'd still volunteer and well, here we are today. I really liked it, so I've done a lot more like volunteering than I planned to at the beginning and that's what I mean, here we are today. I'm on the youth committee. I'm just a member of the youth committee and that's my. . .

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Well Mr. MacAleer and then Ms. Bertram.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** Just one other question. You're PEI, the Southeast Environmental Association, where is that geographically located or is that just a name on a province-wide group? What does it. . .what does it entail? Is it made up of youth people or is it. . .?

**Daniel Gaudet:** Oh no, no, no, it's also, it's an association of—Southeast refers to—I know it includes more than PEI at any rate. It's an environmental group. The only way that they tie into the youth committee basically is they do all of the paperwork, budgeting and that's how they are sponsored. Like David was mentioned, I mean, it's just someone who drops by the office on a regular basis, too. So it's also like I had to explain how we were set up and sometimes I get lost myself in how—because they're on different committees, each one of these individuals and tied up in different associations and organizations. Sorry, but I believe anyway, the Southeast Environmental Association is just a sponsor of the youth committee.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Ms. Bertram is next and then Mr. Bagnall.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** Thank you. Thank you, Daniel, for your presentation. You had mentioned that there's a board plus the youth committee. Who makes up the board?

**Daniel Gaudet:** I definitely couldn't name them off the top of my head.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** No, but in terms of individual's names but are they university students or college students?

**Daniel Gaudet:** No, by board, well they're mostly

professionals from different groups that could be sponsors in terms of financially helping out. So I'm sure that they're either NGO's or they could even be governmental departments.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** Representatives from those different areas.

**Daniel Gaudet:** Yeah, they're probably from—just like all—you know, they would have been the committee that looked at saying, okay, we want a Climate Change Hub here on the Island. How do we do it? So they probably came from all over.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** So do you fine the committee and the board work well together in terms of you bringing forth ideas and the support?

**Daniel Gaudet:** You know, I never thought of that. I don't think, we've never met all together as a group.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** Oh really?

**Daniel Gaudet:** As far as like day-to-day things ranging, I mean, you know the month-to-month meetings that we have in arranging these things, they don't have any input really. They're just there if we need them, for to ask for help, money.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Just for the record, at our last meeting, David Boyce was one of the presenters but he was here, not only representing the Southeast Environmental Association but he was describing their relationship with the PEI Climate Change Hub as part of his presentation on that day. So we do have some information from Mr. Boyce on that matter.

**Daniel Gaudet:** And at any rate, both have websites.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Yes. Mr. Bagnall?

**Jim Bagnall (PC):** No, I don't have any questions. I was just going to say that David Boyce is the chair of the Southeast Environmental Association which is your sponsoring group, I take it, from the way you were talking.

**Daniel Gaudet:** That's right.

**Jim Bagnall (PC):** And he did make a

presentation. Wayne kind of beat me to it. He did make a presentation to our committee based on it. But your group, has your group put any ideas together as to what Prince Edward Island should be doing for climate change? I mean, we've heard all kinds of different things but have you made recommendations? Have you got into that end of it at all?

**Daniel Gaudet:** Also in fairness, most of the people that are going to be involved with this group, I mean, are high school students so not that they can't make real suggestions and put forward ideas but we tend to stick with even smaller practical things like—we wouldn't, we haven't sent anything to the government yet saying this would be a great idea. We have told, tried to tell people different ways to keep their cars fuel efficient, you know what I mean? Like we're not really trying to put forward any particular—we don't want to be political at all and wouldn't want, especially probably wouldn't want to comment on really local specific kinds of issues or at least we haven't yet.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Ms. Bertram.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** I just have one comment and I know you're saying you volunteer and I don't want to put anymore stress on the volunteer but I'm an elementary school teacher and I'm just seeing a need or the importance of that age group tapping into climate change because our youngsters I think are the most important ones to get because they're going to learn early in life and they'll grow up with it, so they'll practice this. But I know, for example, crime prevention, there's dramas that come around to the school and that might be something to maybe look into. I don't know if you've ever think of branching into the elementary. I know you wouldn't have probably representatives as in a committee or anything like that but to touch them.

**Daniel Gaudet:** No, I think absolutely like it's fun to do. One other thing, I wasn't involved with this but like I was involved with the EcoNet was just going in and teaching kids about healthy eating habits and we went to kindergarten to grade six and we can definitely like tone down the rhetoric.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** There you go, but they love it, they love to have, as the minister said, they love to have, and their teacher is talking to them.

**Daniel Gaudet:** It's one of these things they hear about all the time and they don't understand it. Definitely like and you can also, like a kid will know like it's—saving the environment is good, polluting is bad, for example. We can make messages that elementary schools. . .

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** Puppet shows, dramas, anything like that, they love.

**Daniel Gaudet:** Sure, but I mean, it's all a matter of time.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** I know.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Well, Mr. Gaudet, I want to thank you very much for presenting here this evening and I want to wish you and members of the Youth Committee and those involved, the folks of the PEI Climate Change Hub much success, especially at your upcoming workshop on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November. Thank you again, Sir, for being with us this evening. We appreciate it.

**Daniel Gaudet:** Thank you for having me.

## **Part II - Youth Environmental Network: Jason Kun**

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Our second presenter is a gentleman already at the table who is representing this evening, the Youth Environmental Network, Jason Kun. Am I pronouncing that correctly? Jason Kun.

**Daniel Gaudet:** And my name is Gaudet.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Gaudet, I'm sorry.

**Daniel Gaudet:** I wasn't going to say anything.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Alright, Jason, the floor is yours.

**Jason Kun:** Thank you. First I'd like to say thank you to the Special Legislative Committee on Climate Change for holding this youth consultation. I know it's late at night. It's cold out. I have three points to cover in this presentation. One is the work of the Youth Environmental Network and myself, the Atlantic Canada Regional Co-ordinator.

The second is the PEI Climate Change Hub Youth Committees, the Youth Environmental Network, One-Tonne Challenge project, Charlottetown PEI which just got confirmed for funding yesterday-- Daniel, you might not even know about that, the e-mail just got sent--and my recommendations for supporting a Youth Climate Change project in PEI and beyond.

I'll start with the actual Youth Environmental Network. This is the first year that the Youth Environmental Network is cooperating with the One Tonne Challenge, Environment Canada's Climate Change campaign and our regional co-ordinators in British Columbia, the Prairie's, Quebec, Ontario and Atlantic Canada. Atlantic Canada covering Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

The Youth Environmental Network's mission is to increase the effectiveness of the Canadian, the youth environmental movement in its efforts to raise awareness of environmental issues, effect policy and promote lifestyle changes. We hope to carry out this mission through the following mandates: provide tools, resources and support to youth environmental NGO's such as the youth committee here which has applied for an amazing project which I'll outline in a second for you; to outreach and network youth environmental organizations nation-wide.

So I'll be working in Atlantic Canada to connect actually four different groups in each province to share ideas, concepts, successes and resources. We will promote youth involvement and policy development, I'm here. We will be trying to build bridges connecting groups working on main stream, environmental issues with those working on issues not traditionally considered as environmental such as social justice, human rights and aboriginal rights. And through these mandates, we hope to strengthen the capacity of the youth environmental movement.

For myself, I'm the Atlantic Canada Regional Co-ordinator and I'll be coordinating projects focusing on reducing greenhouse gas emissions through Environment Canada's One Tonne Challenge. I'll be working with teams in all four provinces in Atlantic Canada to organize regional events, document project progress and evaluation and create communication plans. I'll also be working to develop existing groups, establish new groups and

network these groups to share ideas, experiences and successes.

Personally, I believe that building capacity and work skills in youth through involvement in community based initiatives will be especially effective for implementing the youth One Tonne Challenge projects as well as strengthening youth environmental organization networks in Canada.

The second part, I'd like to outline the proposal that was actually put forth by Lennie MacPherson. He sits on the Public Transit Coalition as well as the youth committee with the Climate Change Hub and he and a few other members of the Climate Change Hub came up with a proposal for a project. They were quite lucky to have gained the funding for the project. There were nine submissions from Atlantic Canada and only four were selected and PEI's—it's great that PEI got selected as one of them.

The PEI Climate Change Hub Youth Committee is a recipient of the Youth Environmental Network One Tonne Challenge micro-grant and will be embarking on promoting active community transport PACT campaign beginning with the hiring of a youth co-ordinator this week. That's PACT, Promoting Active Community Transport. The objectives are to involve PEI Climate Change Hub Youth Committee initiating and evaluating a challenge to local schools, businesses and other organizations to participate in the One Tonne Challenge.

By motivating these groups to pursue active transport as well as fossil fuel reduced transit such as ride sharing, car pooling, along with a push for a better public transit. The youth will move Charlottetown's car-dependent culture towards being a more mobile, active forward-thinking community. The participants will measure car use per person at the beginning and the end of the four month period and they calculate the improvement in fossil fuel reduction.

The activities will include the youth co-ordinator with volunteers researching, developing, marketing and implementing a program based on the One Tonne Challenge adapted specifically for elementary schools, junior high and high schools making the concept of fossil fuel reduction interesting and tangible for students. We already had one group from Colonel Gray submit a

proposal and one of their models for marketing will actually be used where they will initiate the program in December and throughout the month of January.

Through the public announcements, they will be telling youth about ways that they can change their lifestyles to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. At the end of the three-month period in February, they'll be retesting all the students through the One Tonne Challenge website to see the differences in greenhouse gases and the fund also provides prizes for a kind of a fun-based challenge for the kids.

Marketing will include designing pamphlets, posters, PSA's and other media appearances as well as public appearances with a presentation and display. They will hold meetings and workshops with participants and will organize a kickoff event and a wrap-up continuing commitment party with awards recognizing OTC successes. OTC - One Tonne Challenge, I'll use that from now on just to save a little bit of breath there.

The PACT campaign will maintain communication with other youth led OTC projects in a region to learn from each other and share experiences. PACT proposes to also have the Public Transportation Coalition in Charlottetown, PEI Active Living Alliance, Go For Green, Tracks in Halifax, and the Youth Environmental Network as partners.

The project team consists of a youth co-ordinator and the Climate Change Youth Committee, Jinny Greaves of the PEI Climate Change Hub and Lennie MacPherson, researcher for the PEI Public Transit Coalition. The PEI Climate Change Youth Committee will oversee the maintenance and continuation of the PACT campaign as one of their main objectives.

PACT will present quarterly awards to participants that have shown the highest improvement in reduction of fossil fuel use. The efforts of participants will be highlighted through local media giving PACT increased visibility. Businesses, schools, government as well as other organizations and indeed, the general public will then have a template to continue committing to the One Tonne Challenge. For evaluation, we hope that the youth will measure the results of the PACT campaign by recording the numbers of schools and businesses

that have committed to car pooling, the number of car trips that have been reduced, the mileage eliminated using average Charlottetown commuter statistics and ultimately, the amount of fossil fuel that has been reduced.

PACT will focus on meeting the One Tonne Challenge through sustainable transportation. Transportation is also the largest contributor to greenhouse gases currently. However, this platform will also be a way to inform participants of other ways to reduce fossil fuel emission and will be distributing One Tonne Challenge information.

Last of all, I have my recommendations for supporting the youth environmental efforts in PEI and beyond. The first one is the implementation of community based initiatives. A community based social marketing approach to promoting sustainable behaviour focuses on identifying barriers and benefits to behavioural change, activities, specifics, statistical research and localized community initiatives. Research has shown community based initiatives will be far more effective at fostering behavioural change than broad scale education campaigns. People more inclined to change their behaviour if the focus is on what these changes mean in their own lives. They must feel personally engaged. I personally believe this is especially true for communities in PEI and Atlantic Canada.

The Youth Environmental Network has identified the following potential strategic partnerships for youth engagement on climate change. Municipal, provincial and federal government departments, education bodies such as school boards, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, community organizations, Climate Change Hubs, industrial and corporate entities.

The second recommendation is that the provincial government support youth environmental capacity building. Youth environmental projects that focus on a community based social marketing approach have the most to offer youth in gaining valuable organizational and communication skills that will assist in the development of their organizations as well as provide them with skills they will use in their future studies and work.

For example, university students could earn academic credits through climate change oriented research and high school students could collect

admission data. Things can be made between climate change education and multi-disciplinary approaches to learning as well as project based learning providing opportunities for youth to become environmental leaders.

The Youth Environmental Network has identified recommendations for the youth engagement in the One Tonne Challenge and a document which I will pass on to you in here, along with my presentation for your review.

My last recommendation is to strongly urge you all to read Doug McKenzie-Mohr's book on Community Social Based Marketing Fostering Sustainable Behaviour as well as the recommendations for the youth engagement and the One Tonne Challenge. I found these two resources really helpful and the book that I mentioned is available at the PEI EcoNet office and the other materials are included here.

I would also like to be as bold as to address the committee to ask them to have within perhaps two weeks, because the project that we run here at PACT is only going to run for four months, to have suggestions from the committee on how this special legislative committee can cooperate with PACT on making this campaign stronger and collaborating. I've concluded my contact information and the recommendations and my presentation to all of you.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Well Jason, I want to thank you for that presentation. It's a tremendous agenda of action that's about to commence here on Prince Edward Island from your outlining and I'm sure our members have a lot of questions regarding what's ahead here. You touched on some of the highlights here and I'll take a list of questioners as we go along. Who would like to begin? Minister Gillan.

**Honourable Chester Gillan (PC):** Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thanks, Jason, and concur by a question you've already beaten me to it by you asking us first. So I guess if that's the case, we have to produce in that two-week window. My question did zero not so much on the children, I think you outlined that quite well, and I certainly wish you the very best of luck in that.

Now when that template on the OTC is developed, will that be available then to the adult community?

Because again, as you well know, when you start to get the children infused with enthusiasm, they take it home and then the adults are looking over the youngsters' shoulders and they're thinking, oh yeah we could do something like that or that's interesting. And then many of the little projects, of course, have mom and dad written all over it too. So will you be able to pass that template on in some form to the adult community?

**Jason Kun:** We definitely hope so and part of the project and part of the Youth Environmental Network strategy is to build sustainability and that's one of my personal beliefs too, because as Daniel had already mentioned about these projects, environmental projects especially are very transient especially as in PEI where a lot of our brain power in UPEI comes here for a little while and then leaves to go find another job.

So we do want to be able to provide the strongest possible infrastructure that is set up so that if someone wants to come and utilize the template such as setting up a car pool in a small business or in a larger federal building, then that template is available for them and that will just include packages that have been done with car pooling before includes stickers that you can put in your cars, special parking markers to show that this is a car pool parking, templates for people to register and there's actually a website where you can actually put all of your geographical information and have people organize their car pools like that. So sustainability is definitely one of our key priorities.

**Honourable Chester Gillan (PC):** Right, thanks. Well hopefully, we'll be able to rise to your challenge and see what we can do. It will be interesting.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Mr. MacAleer.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** Jason, thank you for your presentation, very ambitious. You mentioned, is there a PEI co-ordinator, you said? That's not you.

**Jason Kun:** No, that's not me.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** You mentioned the name, Pat.

**Jason Kun:** PACT - I mentioned Lennie and Jinny. Oh the name, PACT is actually the acronym

for the project, Promoting Active Community Transportation.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** Okay, so who's heading that up then?

**Jason Kun:** That is head currently by Jinny Greaves and Lennie MacPherson of the PEI Climate Change Hub Youth Committee and I'll be a consultant for the organization of that and there will actually be one youth coordinator hired for four months to do a part time position to organize the campaign.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** So is Lennie and the young lady, are they students?

**Jason Kun:** Lennie is a graduate as is Jinny, between 16 and 29 for youth.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** So when does this sort of kick off officially? Is it—you say there was something signed? Is that the funding for this project that you're talking about was signed today or yesterday?

**Jason Kun:** Yes, that was just today, that it was confirmed. I'm the regional coordinator so I actually sent that out to Lennie today. He just received it. I consulted with him and he said that would be great if I made a presentation here today about it so we'll be starting this week—Lennie will be starting this week organizing all the resources, making community connections, writing up a job description, organize the operational plan and we'll probably have a media kickoff within two weeks. Maybe something with a special legislative committee offering their recommendations?

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Ms. Bertram.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** The One Tonne Challenge, is it going to be put out—maybe you mentioned it—but is it just for communities? Is it going to be specifically for schools?

**Jason Kun:** Well this One Tonne Challenge project is specifically based on being delivered by and to youth. However, as Mr. Gillan had mentioned earlier, that it would be nice to have a template from this sort of pilot project to be able to offer to other organizations that want to carry it out in the proper way.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** Like I know a lot of schools will do the walk-to-school day, the (Indistinct) or whatever they call it.

**Jason Kun:** The (Indistinct)

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** So it will be put out there to youth?

**Jason Kun:** Definitely.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** Like the elementary, junior high.

**Jason Kun:** Elementary, junior and high school - we'll concentrate mostly on people that fall into the youth category and if the more adult sectors, the federal and provincial governments and larger businesses would like to get into it, that would offer a basic support.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** Take up the challenge.

**Jason Kun:** Yeah.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Jason, may I ask, will this—and I've sort of got it in my head as something called OTC/PACT to the schools, right? Am I sort of focused right there? The One Tonne Challenge through PACT going to the schools?

**Jason Kun:** Yes.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Alright, will this be Island-wide? Will Lennie be able to work and be able to reach out from Souris to Tignish to all those schools because it sounds like a mammoth task.

**Jason Kun:** We're just going to cover the Eastern School District. That's the Charlottetown District, is it? No, sorry.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** Eastern goes from—actually Crapaud is the western school in the Eastern School District that goes east.

**Jason Kun:** Right. I think he's going to concentrate on the Charlottetown area of schools.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Charlottetown area of schools. May I ask this funding is through Environment Canada, is it?

**Jason Kun:** The funding is provided through Environment Canada and Youth Environmental Network has gained the funding to be—I guess I could say, I'll back up a bit here—Environment Canada has outlined its strategy to carry out the One Tonne Challenge through contacting local organizations as they have realized that printing out mammoth numbers of pamphlets will not be the most efficient or the only strategy that they'd like to use.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** So if I understand this correctly, then the Youth Environmental Network has requested funding through this program of Environment Canada says, so you can take this OTC challenge out there to the schools, right?

**Jason Kun:** Yes.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** So this is just one arm of the OTC here in Prince Edward Island?

**Jason Kun:** Definitely. Nova Scotia in Halifax, there's also a One Tonne Challenge co-ordinator that would be working in the more general public. This project is based on being delivered and delivered to and by the youth.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Is that the only funding from Environment Canada at the present time is to the youth for this OTC challenge at the moment on PEI?

**Jason Kun:** I believe so, I believe so.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** May I ask how extensive is the funding? Is there a figure attached to that that you're able to work with?

**Jason Kun:** Four thousand.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** Four thousand?

**Jason Kun:** Four thousand will cover resource materials and the employment which is for the youth co-ordinator, part time.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** I see.

**Jason Kun:** A lot of the—to tell you a little bit about the One Tonne Challenge micro-grants that they had sent out. They sent out a proposal, kind

of a tender for the youth projects. I think it was in mid-September and there was the (Indistinct) micro-grant which is the smaller funding providing groups from up to 2,500 and there is the Core program which provides groups up to 8,000. So there's two different kinds of funding that the One Tonne Challenge has provided. (Indistinct) obviously for the smaller groups not yet quite established, maybe high school and Core for the groups that are more well established in terms of administration.

**Wayne Collins (PC) (Chair):** And may I ask you again for the benefit of my colleagues as well, could you reiterate to us the challenge you place before this committee?

**Jason Kun:** The challenge I placed for the committee is to provide ways which the Legislative Committee can cooperate with the PACT campaign to make the PACT campaign more effective and outreaching to schools, to youth and how we can work together to, either through the media or through actual you providing any resources, information to us. Like I said the actual challenge is placed on the back here and the recommendations for youth engagement in the One Tonne Challenge are placed in here too so you can review that.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Been most informative. Do we have further questions, Ms. Bertram?

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** I just want to clarify the One Tonne Challenge. On greenhouse gas emissions in terms of car pooling. Is that how it's . . . ?

**Jason Kun:** No, actually.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** I need to clarify it, the One Tonne Challenge.

**Jason Kun:** The One Tonne Challenge works on reducing greenhouse gases in all aspects of Canadian lifestyle. That includes home energy, transportation and waste reduction. And it just so happens that the PEI Climate Change Hub Committee wants to work on transportation, which is the largest contributor to greenhouse gases presently especially on PEI.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** Can I make a suggestion though?

**Jason Kun:** Please.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** I hear that or you mentioned that it's just the Charlottetown area. I'm thinking, you know rural areas use vehicles a lot more than city areas and I'm thinking you might want to branch out to rural areas because, you know, I think of schools, staff are commuters and students can think of the extra curricular activities after school. I know they have to be bussed. They have no choice.

**Jason Kun:** I think that's a great suggestion.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** I take it Jason that the One Tonne Challenge is related not only to transportation and how we can lessen our dependence on carbon fossil fuels but other areas of our life as well, better insulation, a whole group of different. . .

**Jason Kun:** Oh, definitely, a whole group of. I wish I had included some of the packages here. I thought you might of had them. But I can bring them back to you. The One Tonne Challenge actually has some pamphlets, a nice little pink pamphlet. I'm sure you're familiar about how you can reduce our greenhouse gas emissions in every aspect of your lifestyle.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Further questions or comments from committee members? Well, Jason, thank you very much. You've give us a great deal to think about and been most informative. Appreciate your time. It is now about ten to eight in the evening. We still have a presentation to come. Do we have our students from Rural?

**Part III - Charlottetown Rural High School:**  
**Brenda Brydon, Willie Horne, Julie Matheson**

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Good evening and welcome to our committee on climate change and we certainly appreciate representation from Charlottetown Rural High School. Perhaps you'll be so kind as to introduce yourselves and following your presentation we'll have a little exchange of question and answer and discussion.

**Willie Horne:** Well, our names are Willie Horne and Julie Matheson. We're grade 11 students at Charlottetown Rural and we're here to make our presentation entitled *Climate Change is Not Cool Yo*.

**Julie Matheson:** A Youth Perspective on Climate Change on PEI - Obviously you already know some things about climate change and we're assuming everyone here already has knowledge that climate change does exist. Temperatures are rising as they have been since the end of the last ice age. But human activity is leading to them rising much more quickly than they would naturally. Climate change is more than just rising temperatures. It can include other temperature changes and changing weather patterns as well as a reduction or increase in hours of daylight. Some people might think that climate change could be good. Warmer temperatures could lead to a more pleasant living environment, improved tourism and lengthen our growing season. But the negatives far outweigh any possible positive benefits. The earth is adaptable but not at this rate. We're putting too much stress on it too quickly.

**Willie Horne:** We realize that PEI is not a major contributor to the destruction of the world although we do do more than we should, we can be practically a pollution free province. We don't have huge industries but we do have many industries. Transportation, for one thing, we have way too many cars, a lot of roads. Tourism wise, the tourist tend to not care nearly as much about our environment as we do. They tend to litter more and not to mention the added traffic that comes with that. Agriculture wise, pesticides are much too widely used. They need to eventually in the future be phased out entirely. Home heating - a huge percentage of Island people use oil. The rest pretty much use wood and that's not a whole lot better. It's nonrenewable and it's going to run out. We need to set an example to others about the stuff we've already done. We recently implemented the waste watch system and we were the first province to have a natural areas protection act.

**Julie Matheson:** PEI is affected in more ways than many people realize. Our major industries like tourism, if there was less daylight and less heat that would be less tourists and the rising water levels will eventually destroy our coastline and beaches, our major tourist attraction. And that would greatly reduce our tourist numbers. In the area of agriculture, we depend on the cold and frost that come with each winter to kill pests that will be in the ground. If that doesn't occur or if it doesn't occur at the same level which we're used to it happening at then there would be a major pest issue for the following growing seasons and that

would involve more pesticides being used and that would contribute more to climate change.

Climate change also affects people's everyday lives. Weather and temperature changes make life difficult and can confuse any adaptations that people already made to the climate of the region that they live in. Melting the antarctic ice alone would raise global sea levels by 73 metres. The highest point on PEI is 142 metres and our average elevation is only zero to 100 metres. A lot of PEI would then be under water. We have come up with solutions in many different areas.

**Willie Horne:** People will respond to a few different things. One of them is money. We need to provide incentives for people to use hybrid cars and eventually hydrogen cars once the technology is far enough along. We need to subsidize the implementation of better heating methods. Wind power needs to be increased for one idea. Some more detailed things are outlined in our printout.

Incentives for car pooling - it's easy to say but setting up an actual system where one might be able to find people who need to go to places that are close or who live in places that are close to them. People will also respond to law. We need to make laws to control the emissions like as in the Kyoto Accord. But with our situation we can be stronger than that. And we need to enforce the existing laws because a lot of people litter all the time.

**Julie Matheson:** We also think that research should be done into different areas. We go into more detail in our handout. These areas could alternative fuels, effective heating and electricity production methods, more efficient transportation and alternatives to pesticides and other farming methods. Awareness also has to be raised through advertising. Most younger people know and have learned through school that climate change does exist but many of them don't care or aren't willing to do anything about it because it would inconvenience them. Many older people either don't acknowledge its existence at all or don't particularly care because they won't be alive by the time it becomes a major problem.

**Willie Horne:** If the problem is not eventually reconciled PEI will be under water like she said. We're, of course, especially vulnerable given our location and geography. We are the ones who are

going to have to deal with it. We're going to be around for a long time and anything that's done or isn't done will eventually be our problem.

**Julie Matheson:** And we have these to pass around.

**Willie Horne:** They also include a relevant essay that I've written for English class recently that just happened to work.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Julie Matheson and Willie Horne you've made a great presentation here this evening and I'd like to before we go to our questions from our committee members, I'd like to ask the first question if I may. In putting together this presentation tonight is this both of you putting your heads together on something or did you speak to fellow students or how did we arrive at this presentation this evening? Could you give a bit of background on that?

**Willie Horne:** Well, not so much talking to students as family members really. Just going around and seeing what they knew about the subject.

**Julie Matheson:** We also had some prior knowledge on the subject from school and news and different just learning through life.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Because we did issue sort of a blanket invitation to all high schools on Prince Edward Island if they'd be able to or want to come to our committee and make a presentation. Is that how you found out about the work of this committee or how did you come to know about this?

**Willie Horne:** We were approached by Ms. Brydon.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** A teacher at Charlottetown Rural?

**Julie Matheson:** Yes.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** That's good. And may I ask what was your reaction when you were approached? Did you know that this committee was in existence at the time?

**Willie Horne:** I didn't.

**Julie Matheson:** I didn't either but it sounded like a really good idea and a great opportunity.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** All right. Mr. Bagnall.

**Jim Bagnall (PC):** First of all I want to thank you for your presentation. It was excellent. Some good ideas. And you get down into a few of the problems. You know, we need the young people today to come up with ideas for us and the thinking you put into this project is really good. You did hit the nail on the head pretty well on a lot of the issues that's going to be happening over the next century and the effects that it's going to have on our economy. But do you have any ideas as to how to implement some of these programs? You made some suggestions of what should be done but how would you implement them?

**Julie Matheson:** Well, generally the only, the major things that get people to get along with ideas like this are either making it illegal not to or giving them money to participate. People don't really respond to a lot else because many people just don't care beyond what would affect their lives and inconvenience them.

**Jim Bagnall (PC):** Do you think about putting something in the curriculum that the schools would help, an educational system for our youth.

**Willie Horne:** Definitely. It needs to be more in it all the time. Like we need a specific course perhaps geared towards relevant information and what can actually be done.

**Jim Bagnall (PC):** Okay.

**Wayne Collins(PC) Chair:** Yes, Mr. Gillan.

**Honourable Chester Gillan (PC):** Thank you, Mr. Chair. I would take the opportunity to introduce to our committee, Ms. Brenda Brydon. She certainly is known to most of us around the table in one fashion or another and has worked at Environment prior to taking up her present position in the classroom which she's been for quite a few years. And I had the good fortune to be able to work with her at Charlottetown Rural before I left and it's great to see her influence represented here tonight in these two students. Were you members of the Envirothon Team?

**Julie Matheson:** Yes, I competed in the

Envirothon last year and we were both on our school's team this year but we didn't end up, our team didn't end up actually participating in the competition this year.

**Honourable Chester Gillan (PC):** I see, okay. Was Charlottetown Rural represented this year?

**Brenda Brydon:** We only had three members (indistinct-not at table with presenters)

**Honourable Chester Gillan (PC):** And I do know that other schools . . .

**Brenda Brydon:** (Indistinct)

**Honourable Chester Gillan (PC):** I know that. I can remember that as well. And I think, Julie, you made mention of the fact that while you people have the interest to become involved and get these facts and information and you're here this evening, of course, outside of school time, not all students will avail themselves of doing what you people are doing and working with teachers such as Ms. Brydon. In fact there were two individuals sitting in those very seats prior to you people taking them over and said it's very difficult to reach students and to generate that type of enthusiasm. And Mr. Bagnall said, you know, in essence what do you think that you can do to get . . . instead of go from two to 22 and on and one, to get more students? It's going to be quite catastrophic if you or, in fact us as well, have to battle that water, that rising water. And of course we have seen it from time to time when we get very high tides and the wind moving on shore. Well, down at the Delta they usually have their basement flooded and all of that. Do you have any ideas as to how you could get your friends involved?

**Willie Horne:** I think they need time. When they reach maybe university age. Right now it's so difficult because they really can't, most people just can't care too much about it at this point in their lives because they don't live on their own and they don't make their lifestyle choices for the most part really. But we need to make them know that once they do and once they're out there by themselves that they can and should make the right choices.

**Honourable Chester Gillan (PC):** Let me put it another way then. Have you heard, other than your science teachers and/or Ms. Brydon, talking about this? Have you heard any of the teachers talking

about it to their students in their various classes? Phys ed, for instance?

**Julie Matheson:** No. Generally only in courses specifically related to it such as conservation and in elementary school we learned about climate change but only in a very general way and our teachers kind of put a doubt on whether it actually existed at that point. So a lot of people just still don't realize that it is actually a problem and that it is going to be a major problem in the foreseeable future.

**Honourable Chester Gillan (PC):** I think you're right on there, Julie, is that many adults just don't see it as a potential problem and take a look at the development of the waterfront as an example. So what they see there today may not be as readily available to observe 20 years from now. And 20 years, in the life of environment and geology is not very long and of course you people are going to be around for 50, 60, 70 more years and in that particular time we could have a lot of drastic changes along our various waterfronts. So it's not only the young people. We adults need a lot of education and you people being here tonight certainly are reminding us of our responsibility. Thank you.

**Willie Horne:** Thanks.

**Julie Matheson:** Thanks.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Yes and Mr. MacAleer.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** I want to thank the two presenters here, Willie and Julie. What grades are you in?

**Willie Horne:** Eleven.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** Both of you in grade eleven?

**Julie Matheson:** Yes.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** Willie, what other organizations are you involved in?

**Willie Horne:** Junior Achievement . . .

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** That's where I've seen you. Okay. I knew you.

**Jim Bagnall (PC):** Let him finish though.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** I'm sorry, go ahead.

**Willie Horne:** No, I'm fine.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** I knew I'd met you before. Go ahead, what were you saying? What other . . . Junior Achievement, yes, what other groups?

**Willie Horne:** I'm heavily involved in music, Queens County Music Festival. I've been invited to the provincial music festival several times, never went.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** Do you play for the Singing Strings?

**Willie Horne:** No, I'm a pianist and a saxophonist.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** I'm really impressed by your essay here. I was just wondering whether you'd read Peter Farb's book *Humankind?* You quoted it.

**Willie Horne:** I tried. (Laughter)

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** Is there any one thing that stands out in terms of, you know, an environmental issue that should capture the focus of people on PEI? Is it transportation? Is it fossil fuels? Is it . . .

**Willie Horne:** I think it's the energy. I think a solution to our current energy usage is like viable and can be implemented soon. It's not one of the longer term things. It's one of the big things that should be solved within the next two decades maybe.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** So among your colleagues or your family, whatever, do any of them talk to you about what those energy sources could be?

**Willie Horne:** Well, there is, of course, the whole big natural gas thing and I'm not exactly what to what's going on in that. But wind power is also a really good idea. I've heard something about an experimental hydrogen village which would be a really cool idea and if we did that glitches in the system could be worked out and then maybe it could be applied to a greater area.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** What about wind power?

**Willie Horne:** That can be increased and should be. It's just the problem is that people don't want windmills everywhere.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** Have you heard of bio-diesel?

**Willie Horne:** No.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** It's another alternative. It can be taken from canola or (indistinct) Thank you for coming.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Ms. Bertram?

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** Thank you for your presentation. It was great. I'm just wondering, you know you were saying about at high school it's hard to see interest from your peers. Do you find that when you have perhaps guest speakers or hands on projects and things like that you see them having more interest?

**Julie Matheson:** Often things that people can get involved in and when hearing people who actually care about the subject speak, people start to care more and get more involved but often the people who are going to care already care and the people who don't just don't listen anyway. It's more a matter of general education and just trying to get everyone to care at least to a degree.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** Like, I'll just throw . . . I know you have a great teacher . . . I'm just wondering, but field trips, all that, you know, the cost and that, we don't go on a lot of field trips any more but how many in your school would have gone to the Windmill Test Site?

**Willie Horne:** I'm not sure. There's optional environmental adventure type things. Like we went on the canoe trip earlier this year on the West River and that was a lot of fun. And sometimes they go off Island to Maine and so forth.

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** But those types of experiences certainly, yes.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Well, Willie and Julie I want to thank you both very much for being here with us this evening and I would ask all our

presenters to stay around for a little while, I have a small little presentation I'd like to make to you. But I do want to mention for the record here that Charlottetown Rural High School had some stellar results in the Envirothon over the years. I speak personally as my daughter was a member of the successful Envirothon team a number of years ago and actually wound up going to California to compete in the North American Envirothon. So obviously we have two wonderful students here this evening who no doubt will lead the way for Charlottetown Rural the next time the Envirothon comes along. So much success to you.

I feel very encouraged tonight. I'm sure I speak on behalf of my colleagues as well. It's been very encouraging to hear the youth tonight speak out on this very important issue of climate change. Number one, to express their concerns about it and number two, to offer some very positive ideas on ways that we can try to cope with the many challenges of climate change that inevitability lie ahead for us. We appreciate your contribution to this committee. Thank you very much. We're going to take a short five minute break - a chance to stretch our legs and then I invite committee members back to discuss the remainder of the agenda - the next steps. So we'll recess for five minutes.

### **Five Minute Recess**

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Okay, panel we're back to business of the Special Committee on Climate Change under the topic of discussion of next steps for the committee and we have been handed a challenge here recently by Jason Kun regarding the OTC and PACT and their upcoming work in the Charlottetown area schools. And as a suggestion here may I offer that when they get ready to make their official launch that we would make special arrangements to gather our committee together and in launching their campaign we would invite them to do so with us together as a meeting of the committee, at an impromptu meeting of this committee and we could make arrangements through the Clerk to make that possible. I know the House is going to be sitting starting on Thursday but it could be something as simple as a 5:00 after the House breaks we could be gathered here in this room for something like that if that's something that Jason would like to . . . we could then publicly put our endorsement and our stamp of approval on the work that you and

your committee are embarking upon for the next four months. Is that agreeable to the committee members? All right and so we will do that and we will make the necessary coordination through the Clerk of Committees. Good.

Regarding a discussion of other steps, interim report, any thoughts on that, Mr. Bagnall?

**Jim Bagnall (PC):** Just a suggestion. I know they've asked for us to come up with some recommendations within the next couple of weeks. But I believe that we shouldn't close this committee off at the present time. I think that we should keep it open. I think that maybe we can bring in an interim report and make some recommendations in that interim report that would reflect what they're looking for.

Also I think that during this House session we're probable going to have some renewable energy bills may be coming forward. We're hoping. They've been promising that they're going to bring something forward all summer long, that there's going to be something coming there and I'm looking forward to that. We knew we've got some on energy and I think that this would be something that our committee would want to maybe talk about after the session if this information comes forward because it could be something leading to, that we should be looking at and making recommendations on also.

So my feeling is that we should come in with an interim report and not close down the complete committee at this time and give us a chance to see what our energy policies may be or what the recommendations for energy policies could be and then maybe we'll want to bring in people like or companies like Maritime Electric or Cavendish Farms or some of the large companies that are using energy and whatever. So I think . . . that's my feeling but that's only me.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Any other discussion on this regard?

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** I think, Mr. Chairman, I would concur with Mr. Bagnall's observations but I'd also add to this that members of our audience who may be still here might find it quite appealing to come to the Legislature when we are presenting this legislation concerning energy. That it could be an exciting first step in bringing alternate sources of

energy to the province and very much along the lines we've spoken about which is energy conservation, the reduction in use of fossil fuels.

**Jim Bagnall (PC):** The only thing I would say, Mr. MacAleer, is that we don't know for sure whether this is coming. We're surmising that it may be and we'd have to be sure. We wouldn't want to tell somebody to come in when it isn't coming. So we'd have to make sure that the minister is actually bringing anything forward. Whether it's going to be the fall session or the spring session. So we'd have to make sure we'd know on that.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Mr. Gillan?

**Honourable Chester Gillan (PC):** The suggestion that the committee stay open I believe is a very valid one. I think the story is, it's still hugely untold yet. We have heard from some environmental organizations and now this evening, students. But we really haven't heard from the business community and we have talked about a couple of those larger ones but I'm just wondering about the effect on adults and our adult population as well as the business community. And really it's untapped as far as this committee is concerned. So I think that if we can, if need be, prompt some presentations by the adult community and in particular by the business community. And I'm thinking of small businesses as well. And I believe if we can get some information out during this sitting of the Legislature to prompt their thinking into how is climate change going to affect you and your small business? How is it going to affect the farming community? We did have one farmer, an organic farmer, make a presentation. We haven't heard from the potato farmers yet. And I know, of course the harvest season was on in full swing when we were holding our committee meetings.

So I think that there's a story out there that we haven't heard and it may take some prompting just as the presenters here tonight talk about it's difficult to get all the students with a shoulder to the wheel but as many as possible. And I don't think we have even attempted to get that information source from the adults.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Ms. Bertram?

**Carolyn Bertram (L):** Well, I agree that we perhaps need to hear from some other individuals but at the same time I think we need action in

terms of putting forth recommendations and I see the public transit issue as something immediate and the need immediate and I think the longer we talk about it, the longer we discuss it the longer it takes for us to implement a transit system in Charlottetown or for the province. And I think it's been surveyed, it's been studied. Like I don't see us . . . that should be something coming forth from this committee, that that should be our recommendation. I think that's something that's here and now that we can do to help people in this area of the province.

Hopefully it could perhaps move into areas of other parts of the province but there are groups, there's individuals that have presented to us. I don't think there's any group in this city that would be dismayed by a public transit system. And I just see another sitting of the . . . if we're waiting until the spring session I see a delay in that whole process and I feel that, I think we need to put forth that recommendation in the House this sitting of the Legislature.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Mr. Bagnall?

**Jim Bagnall (PC):** I guess what I would say on that too, and I'm not disagreeing with what you're saying, but we could actually put recommendations in our interim report, in our report that goes this fall but still leaving the door open for our committee to continue to work. So we will get your information out. We will get what you're looking for in an interim report and that recommendation to the floor of the House which would endorse, our committee's endorsement in that part of it. But also leaving the door open where we can examine other avenues down the road in this committee. I just think that this is too important an issue to have three or four meetings and drop it and do a quick report and turn it in. Because I believe it's something that even our committee's going to have to do work with.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** May I just ask for clarification from our Clerk of Committees, is it unusual or not unusual for a committee in an interim report make a recommendation?

**Marian Johnston (Committee Clerk):** Well, the report will be the committee's report and it will be whatever the committee decides to put in it. We are obligated to report within ten sitting days because we're meeting intersessionally. So there is an

obligation to submit a report.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** But in making recommendations it doesn't end the work of the committee, does it?

**Marian Johnston (Committee Clerk):** No, not at all.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Not at all. Okay. Very good. That's what I wanted to hear. So should we then set a date for an in camera discussion of what our interim report will contain? I think that's how it's usually done. When we deliberate we deliberate in camera on an interim . . . and that would apply to an interim report as well as a final report. Everyone got their date books handy? Because we have the opening of the Legislature this Thursday and we have to report within ten sitting days. End of the first week of December.

**Marian Johnston (Committee Clerk):** By the 6<sup>th</sup> of December we would have to have it ready?

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** By the 6<sup>th</sup> of December.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** Could we meet, Mr. Chairman, between sessions of the Legislature? Would that be possible? Because we're going to be here anyway.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Between like five and seven in the evening of Tuesday or Thursday. That sounds fine. Now when do we want to do that. Which Tuesday, which Thursday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> or the 25<sup>th</sup>?

**Jim Bagnall (PC):** Well, why don't we do it next Tuesday night?

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Or pardon me, Tuesday the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** Who's going to be writing the report?

**Marian Johnston (Committee Clerk):** I'll be working on the interim report and our researcher Erin will be working on the final report. The interim report may contain some recommendations but it will mainly be a report of the committee activity.

**Jim Bagnall (PC):** But do we not, what I'm saying is we should meet to decide what we want to go in that interim report and Tuesday night would be a good time to get it started between five and seven.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** 5:00 o'clock here in the Pope room. All right. On Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, after the House breaks. Okay then. So that completes the business for now and again I do want to thank all of our presenters this evening and I look forward to meeting again with many of them during the official launch of the big challenge upcoming. So do we have a motion for adjournment.

**Wes MacAleer (PC):** So moved.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** So moved by Mr. MacAleer. All those in favour say Aye.

**Committee Members:** Yes.

**Wayne Collins Chair(PC):** Contrary nay. We're adjourned.