



**Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) of North America  
24th Regular Session of the CEC Council  
and  
Sessions of the Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC)  
27–28 June 2017**

UPEI School of Sustainable Design Engineering  
550 University Ave  
Charlottetown, PE C1A 4P3, Canada

**Preliminary Program of Public Events**

For over twenty years, the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) and the Joint Public Advisory Committee to the CEC (JPAC) have promoted public health benefits and environmental sustainability under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), through public dialogue, focused research, and regional cooperation.

The JPAC workshop in Charlottetown will engage the public in a discussion of how best to advance this core mission by examining the innovative approaches of local entrepreneurs and communities to trade-related water system challenges in Canada, Mexico, and the United States. The session will highlight innovative local solutions that address regional issues, or that might be replicated elsewhere in the region to promote sustainable job growth and economic prosperity.

Drawing on the importance of coasts and surrounding waters to Prince Edward Island, the location of this year's Council and JPAC sessions, the session will focus on water-related challenges and opportunities of populations living along coasts, estuaries, and lakes (littoral communities) as well as rivers (riparian communities). It will feature panels and roundtable discussion on: (1) Sustainable and innovative water-related businesses: Benefiting local economies while protecting the environment; (2) Increasing resilience through cooperation: Replicating innovative local solutions to environmental security challenges; and (3) Sustainable economic growth on the water's edge: Protecting water-based jobs and communities through water-based conservation.

The workshop will draw on examples from all three NAFTA countries, highlighting the economies and cultures of large and small communities that are directly tied to the water, and the resilience of those communities when challenged by environmental issues related to water and extreme weather events.

The public can join this session via live broadcast and send in their questions and comments on social media.

**Increasing Resilience through Cooperation: Empowering Coastal, Shoreline, and Riverbank Communities in North America**

**(Atlantic Time)**

- 8:00–9:00**      **Registration of Participants – Foyer**
- 9:00–9:10**      **Opening and Introductory Remarks, by Eric Dannenmaier, JPAC Chair – Lecture Room #128A-B**
- 9:10–9:30**      **CEC Presentation, by César Rafael Chávez, CEC Executive Director**
- 9:30–10:00**      **Keynote Presentation by Robert Mitchell, Minister of Communities, Land and Environment, Government of Prince Edward Island**
- 10:00–10:45**      **Panel 1 – Sustainable and innovative water-related businesses: Benefiting local economies while protecting the environment**
- Sustainable water-related businesses and activities have shown a high potential for long-term growth and local employment. This panel will discuss opportunities for supporting local development while at the same time protecting the environment and its natural resources. It will highlight activities from the private sector, including aquaculture and sustainable tourism, as well as organizations focusing on revitalizing local economies and neighborhoods.
- Moderator: Sabaa Khan, JPAC member**
- **Matt Sullivan**, Executive Director, Prince Edward Island Aquaculture Alliance
  - **Eduardo Nájera Hillman**, Director, WILDCOAST Mexico
  - **Eric Moraczewski**, Executive Director, Gateway Arch Park Foundation
- 10:45–11:30**      **Facilitated discussion among JPAC members, panelists and audience (in person and online)**
- 11:30–11:45**      **Break**
- 11:45–12:30**      **Panel 2 – Increasing resilience through cooperation: Replicating innovative local solutions to environmental security challenges – Lecture Room #128A-B**
- Waterside communities are faced with increased environmental security challenges. This panel will present and discuss local solutions to these risks, while allowing the public to also share their knowledge of similar experiences. This dialogue will help advance potential innovations that can lead to increased resilience of North American communities.
- Moderator: Gustavo Alanís-Ortega, JPAC member**
- **Kerry-Ann Charles**, Environmental Coordinator, Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation
  - **Dora Patricia Uribe Jiménez**, Secretary general, Cozumel city council
  - **Teresa Crean**, Coastal Research Associate - Community Planning and Coastal Resilience, Coastal Resources Center, University of Rhode Island
- 12:30–13:15**      **Facilitated discussion among JPAC members, panelists and audience (in person and online)**

- 13:15–14:15**    **Lunch [provided] – Lobby Area**
- 14:15–15:00**    **Panel 3 – Sustainable economic growth on the water’s edge: Protecting water-based jobs and communities through water-based conservation – Lecture Room #128A-B**
- Social and economic development are advanced when natural resources are secured through policies that promote conservation and sustainable yield. This panel will discuss some of the environmental challenges faced by communities living near the water and offer successful case studies that might serve as models to help other North American communities facing similar issues.
- Moderator: Octaviana Trujillo** JPAC member
- **Karen Wristen**, Executive Director, Living Oceans
  - **Frédéric Thalasso Siret**, Researcher, Department of Biotechnology, Center for Research and Advanced Studies of the National Polytechnic Institute (Cinvestav)
  - **Howard A. Learner**, President & Executive Director, Environmental Law and Policy Center (ELPC)
- 15:00–15:45**    **Facilitated discussion among JPAC members, panelists and audience (in person and online)**
- 15:45–16:00**    **Update on Submissions on Enforcement Matters**
- 16:00–16:10**    **Report from the National and Governmental Advisory Committee Representatives**
- 16:10–16:25**    **Presentation, by Fatou Ndoeye**, Acting Regional Director, UN Environment Regional Office for North America
- 16:25–16:30**    **Closing Remarks and Session Adjournment, by Eric Dannenmaier**, JPAC Chair
- 19:00–21:00**    **2017 CEC Council Session Welcoming Reception (open to registered participants) – Greenwich, Prince Edward Island (PEI) National Park**

<b>Wednesday, 28 June 2017</b>
--------------------------------

- 9:00–11:15**    **Innovation Jam Session with North American Youth**
- This intergenerational workshop is an opportunity to come up with solution-focused actions that will maximize youth engagement and contribution in solving the complex sustainability issues currently facing North America. The CEC will solicit public input on tangible ways to engage youth on issues like food waste reduction and recovery and reducing marine litter. The session will be facilitated by Eric Dannenmaier, chair of the CEC Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC) and Meredith Adler, JPAC member.
- 11:15–12:00**    **Public visit – Connecting Communities for a #HealthyFuture: An Interactive Exhibit**
- 12:00–12:30**    **Break**

- 12:30–14:30**    **Lunch [provided]**
- 14:30–16:40**    **Let’s Talk Innovation – 2017 CEC Council Public Session**  
Presentations from winners of the CEC Youth Innovation Challenge  
Engagement with registered participants on “Innovation for clean growth in  
North America” – *Lecture Room #128A-B*
- 16:40–17:00**    **Closing of the Council Session**