

**EP Certification:
Recognizing Environmental
Auditing Excellence**

AAC Annual Conference

April 9, 2014



ECO CANADA

Presentation Overview

- I. Introduction to ECO Canada
- II. Canada's Environmental Workforce
- III. Launch of the Environmental Certification Program
- IV. Benefits of EP Certification for Auditors



Introduction to ECO Canada

Introduction to ECO Canada

ECO Canada is an industry-initiated and led not-for-profit organization that:

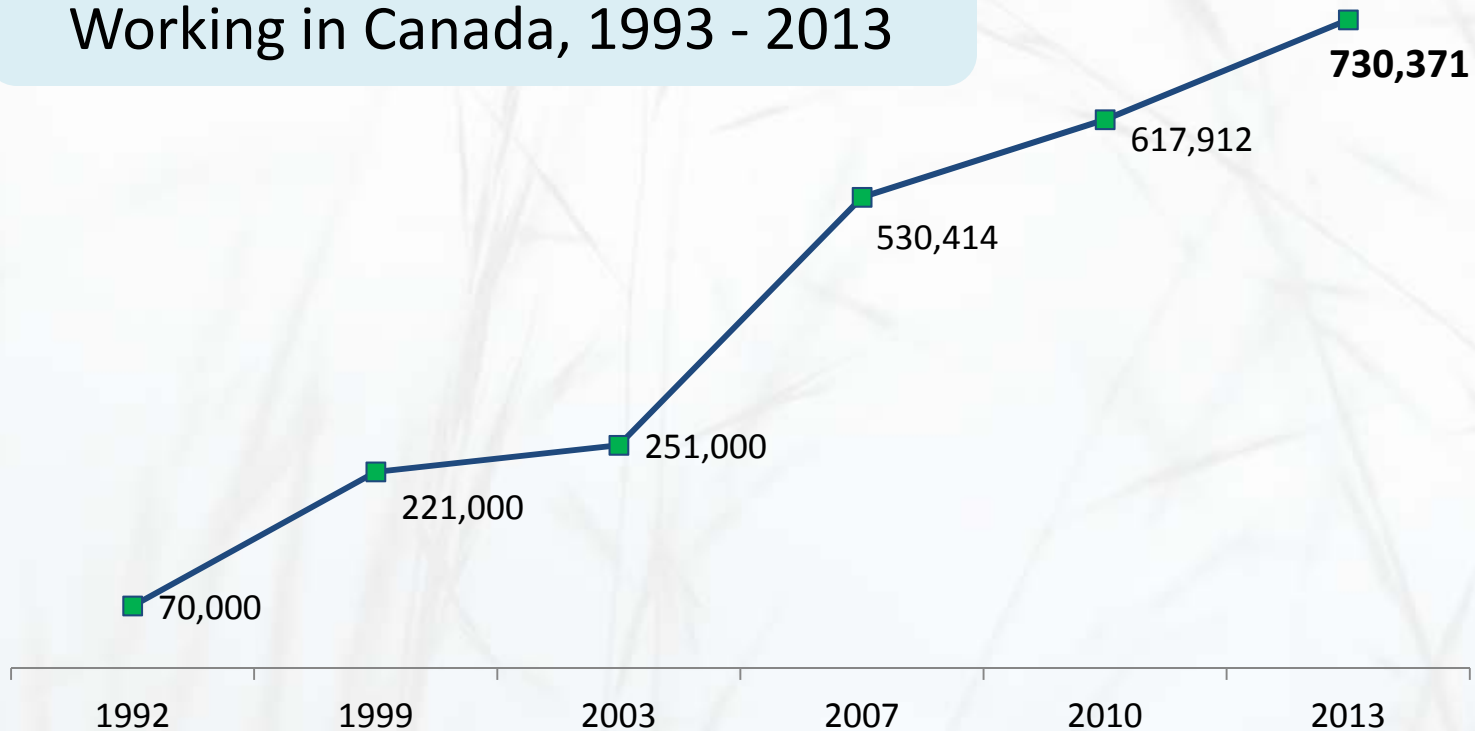
- Develops programs to help individuals build meaningful environmental careers
- Provides employers with resources to find and keep the best environmental professionals
- Informs educators and governments of environmental employment trends



Canada's Environmental Workforce

Growth of the Environmental Workforce

of Environmental Professionals Working in Canada, 1993 - 2013



Data sources:

CCHREI 1993 REPORT – Human Resources in the Environment Industry
CCHREI 1999 REPORT – Human Resources on the Canadian Environmental Sectors
CCHREI 2003 REPORT – Environmental Employment in Canada

ECO Canada 2007 Profile of Canadian Environmental Employment
ECO Canada 2010 Profile of Canadian Environmental Employment
ECO Canada 2013 Profile of Canadian Environmental Employment

Current Employment Numbers

Over 1.7 million Canadian workers spend at least some portion of their work time on environmental activities

(Represents 10.3% of the Canadian workforce)

730,000+* Environmental Professionals
(represents 4.0% of Canadian workforce)

460,000+ Employers
(represents 19.6% of all Canadian organizations)



Interdisciplinary

Constantly evolving

Rapidly growing

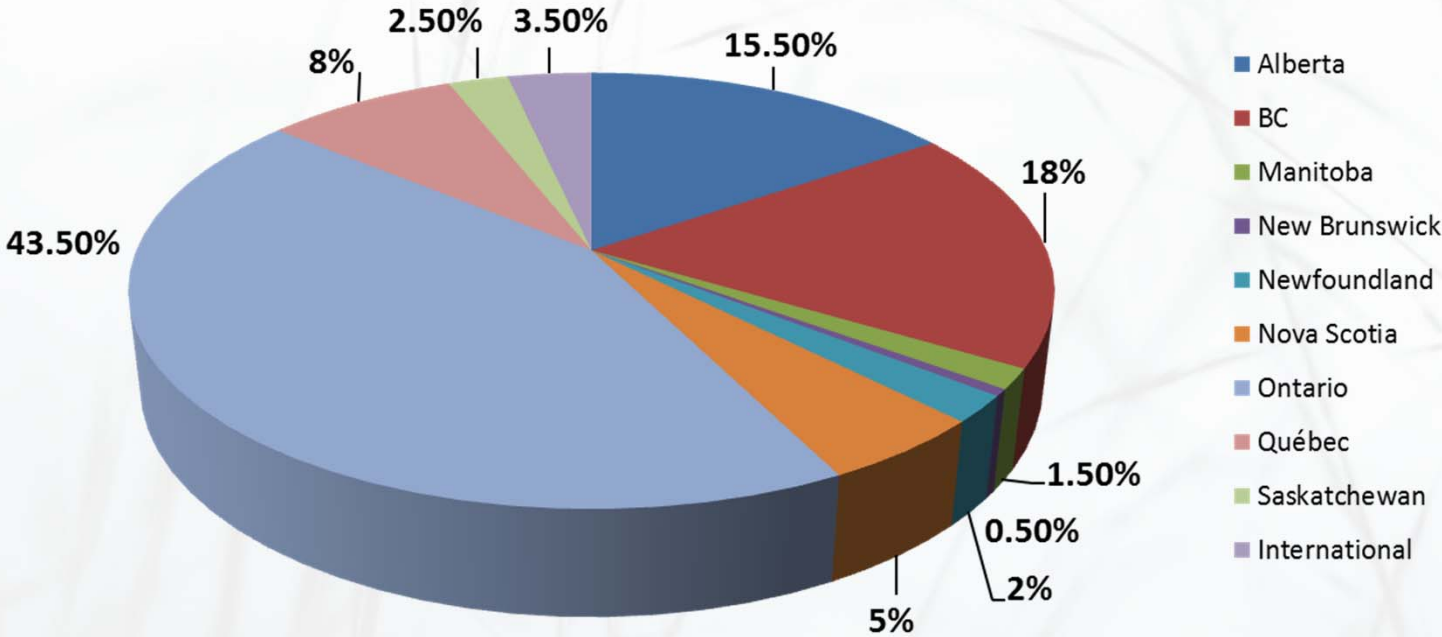


* Represents professionals who spend 50% or more of their time on environmental work activities. *Profile of Canadian Environmental Employment*, ECO Canada, 2013.

ECO CANADA

Regional Distribution of Certified Environmental Auditors

Certified Environmental Auditors: EP(CEA) and EP(EMSLA)



The background of the slide features a soft-focus photograph of tall, thin grasses or reeds in a field. The colors are muted, with shades of light green, teal, and blue. A white rectangular frame is centered on the slide, containing the main text.

Launch of the Environmental Certification Program

The Need for Industry Regulation

15% of Canadian professions are regulated

Environmental work has a direct impact on **public health and safety**, making it essential for practitioners to follow established standards



Understanding Foreign Credential Recognition, Think Talent. Think Global, 2014.

ECO CANADA

Program Background

ECO Canada developed the framework for national environmental certification in consultation with:

- **Business leaders**
- **Governments**
- **Academia**
- **Individual professionals**

CECAB

Canadian Environmental Certification
Approvals Board

FOUNDING DOCUMENT, 1997



Launch of CECAB

The Canadian Environmental Certification Approvals Board (**CECAB**) was established in 1997



Creation of the NOS

National Occupational Standards (NOS):

- ✓ Serve as a “dictionary” of 350 technical and transferable competencies for environmental professionals
- ✓ Form the competency standards that practitioners must meet or exceed to qualify for EP Certification
- ✓ Reflect direct input and review from thousands of professionals and industry leaders across Canada

NOS for Environmental Auditors

The NOS for Environmental Auditors encompass **66 competency statements** in 3 categories:

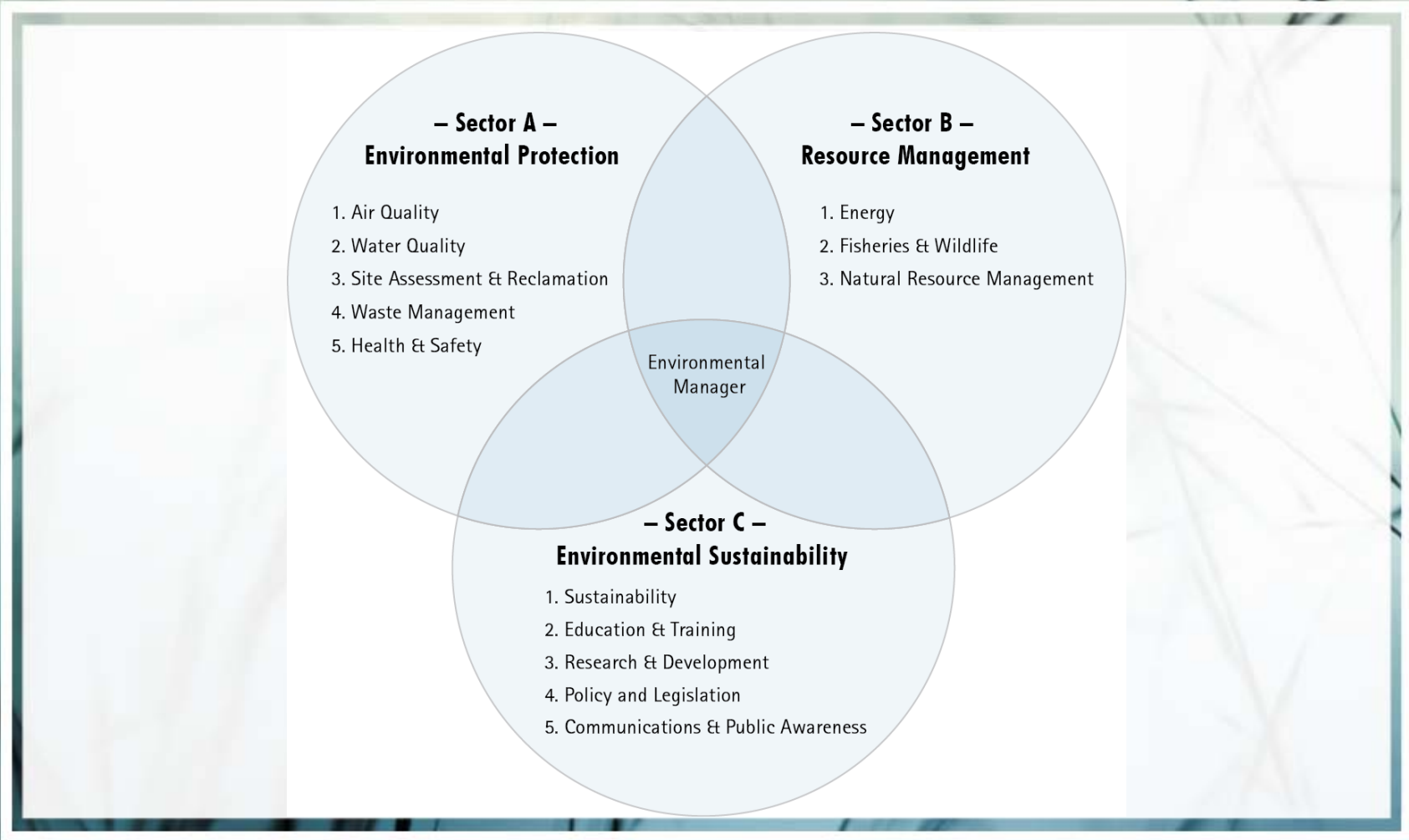


Technical Competencies

Transferable Competencies

Core Knowledge

Sub-Sector Model of Environmental Employment



Launch of the Certification Program

2000: Launch of ECO Canada's first national environmental certification

2004: Transfer of the Auditor and Site Assessor certifications from AAC to ECO Canada

Today: EP(EMSLA) and EP(CEA)

ISO 17024 Accreditation

- ECO Canada's certification is accredited to **ISO 17024**, the international standard for Personnel Certification Bodies by the Standards Council of Canada (SCC)
- This means that EP certification conforms to **international standards** in the areas of:
 - ✓ **Quality Management**
 - ✓ **Prevention of Conflict of Interest**
 - ✓ **Best Practices for Certification Program Management**

Profile of Certified Environmental Auditors

148 EP(CEA)

Environmental Professional – Compliance Auditor

- Work in accordance with national and international standards
- Perform auditing activities related to CSA Z773 and ISO 19011

129 EP(EMSLA)

Environmental Professional – Environmental Management Systems Lead Auditor

- Specialize in two additional areas: Environmental Management Systems (EMS) and Sustainable Forestry Management (SFM)
- Audit organizations against ISO 14001 **OR**
- Audit organizations against SFM standards (FSC, SFI, CSA-Z809)

Formal Training Areas

EP(CEA) and **EP(EMSLA)** professionals complete **at least 35 hours** of formal training in these areas:

Environmental Management Systems (EMS)
and Standards

Environmental Laws and Regulations, and
Associated Documentation

Environmental Science and Technology

Environmental Audit Types, Procedures,
Processes, Techniques and Guidelines

Technical and Environmental Aspects of
Business and Facility Operation

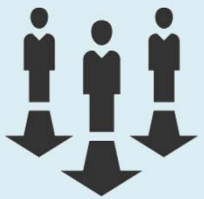


**Benefits of EP
Certification for
Auditors**

How EP Benefits the Auditing Profession




Definition and recognition of environmental work



Shared ethics



*Increased credibility

A close-up photograph of a person's hands planting a small green seedling into the soil. The hands are positioned on either side of the seedling, gently holding it in place. The soil is dark and appears to be in a garden or field setting. The background is blurred, showing green foliage.

“The EP designation is respected by peers, other professionals and other professional organizations. This respect and recognition provides an EP with level of confidence so that others will know that your work is competent”

Cecil Burns, EP

How EP Benefits Individual Auditors



Professional development



Networking




Employer preference

EP Benefits for Individual Auditors

Certified EP(CEA) and EP(EMSLA) members receive exclusive discounts on PD, such as the **ECO Academy**

The screenshot displays the ECO Academy website interface. At the top, the logo and name 'ECO ACADEMY' are visible, along with the user login 'You are logged in as: Miranda Ross'. The main content area is titled 'ECO Canada's Project Management Course' and shows a progress bar at 100%. Below this, a message states 'You have completed the requirements for this group.' A list of seven project management courses is shown, each with a green checkmark and an 'Open' button:

| Course Name | Completion Status | Action |
|---|-------------------|--------|
| Fundamentals of Project Management Course | Completed | Open |
| Integration Management Course | Completed | Open |
| Scope Management Course | Completed | Open |
| Time Management Course | Completed | Open |
| Cost Management Course | Completed | Open |
| Quality Management Course | Completed | Open |
| Human Resource Management Course | Completed | Open |



Thank You
Any Questions?

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