Report from the Ambassador for the Environment



- participated in the opening ceremonies
- announced Canada's renewal of the mandate of the International Model Forest Secretariat, based in Ottawa
- announced the establishment of the Regional Model Forest Centre for Latin America
- presented Canada's position on the African Process for the Development and Protection of the Coastal and Marine Environment, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa
- outlined Canada's serious concerns regarding the disastrous effects on its North at the Arctic Council's Early Warnings and Sustainable Solutions: Climate Change and the Arctic Council event, emphasizing Canada's leadership in signing and ratifying the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

Visits Related to Environmental Projects, Sites and Technologies

Agri-Plas, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

- recycles plastics into plastic wood
- requires no maintenance and removes plastics from landfills
- the wood has the strength of natural wood, greater durability and no toxicity

Altonorte Copper Smelter (owned and operated by Noranda), Antofagasta, Chile

an environmentally responsible copper smelter

Atlantic Wind Test Site, North Cape, Prince Edward Island

- eight wind turbines generate 16.6 million kilowatt hours of clean electricity per year
- a three-megawatt turbine will be installed in 2003
- by Phase III, wind turbines will produce 10 percent of P.E.I.'s electrical energy needs

Biovillage, Pondicherry, India

 an IDRC (International Development Research Centre)-aided model facility for sustainable farming

Criciuma, Santa Catarina, Brazil

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remediation projects focusing on coal mines and contaminated waterways