Communiqué
Centre for Social and Sustainable Innovation
October 4, 2012

It’s time to purge. In a good way.

UVic Child Care Services wants your non-confidential printed-one-side paper for children’s art. Old posters too! Walk a stack over to 3889 Finnerty Road or call local 8500 for more info and to organize a pick up.

Who doesn’t have a mugful of dried-up plastic pens gathering dust? ZAP Copy inside the SUB will recycle them! Used batteries and personal (not UVic) cell phones can be dropped off for recycling in SUB, University Centre, Bob Wright Centre and the Ian Stewart Complex, too.

ESG metrics

Recognizing that Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) practices have a growing effect on corporate performance and long-term shareholder value, many public companies are now disclosing nonfinancial metrics in these areas.

The Conference Board (www.conferenceboard.org) with Bloomberg and the Global Reporting Initiative has created a Sustainability Report that analyzes 72 different environmental and social practices disclosed by 3,000 public companies around the world. You can find it online or (Gustavson folks only) at share.uvic.ca/busii > Centers > CSSI > CSSI Stuff > CSSI repository.

Global labour market, right here

Over the next decade, due to our aging workforce and economic growth, there will be more than a million job openings in BC. We need new skilled immigrants to meet our labour requirements, so the BC government’s Employer Innovation Fund for Immigrants will offer up to $1.75 million between Sept. 17, 2012 and March 31, 2014 to support employers as they integrate new immigrants to their workplaces.

International business, right here

A two-hour workshop for local businesspeople will focus on China as the centre of economic gravity and emerging opportunities. Entrepreneurs can find out how small local companies have succeeded, how to build relationships and understand cultural norms, and the importance of locally led trade missions. Greater Victoria Development Agency and the City of Victoria are hosting this free session, presented by Henry Han of the BC Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and (in the afternoon only) Dominique Spragg, VP Strategic Planning at Vicking Air. The Oct 12 workshop will be held at City Hall from 9-11 am and again from 1-3 pm. For more information or to RSVP, contact Dallas Gislason, GVDA Economic Development Officer at (250) 360-3478 or here.

Clean tech economy, also right here

“Strengthening Victoria’s Green Economy” is a project by the collaborative team of Gustavson PhD students Richard Tuck and Erik Schindler, former Gustavson prof Charlene Zietsma, Dr. Muriel Gavira of the University of Campinas, Sao Paulo, Brazil, and Joel Bothello of ESSEC, Paris.

They’ve created a survey (less than 10 minutes, they promise) for residents and stakeholders in the CRD – all 13 municipalities on southern Vancouver Island. If that’s you, they’d love your input either before they present preliminary findings to the City of Victoria on October 5, or any time in the next three weeks.