

Rochelle Owen BSc, MES, LEED GA



Strategic thinker and recognized leader with over thirty-five years of experience in the environment and sustainability field. Comprehensive knowledge of planning, funding and program development for climate change and energy, green building, transportation and solid waste initiatives. An accomplished speaker, educator with broad stakeholder experience.

CURRENT ROLE & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PRINCIPAL

2024 | ROCHELLE OWEN CONSULTING

- Provides sustainability and climate planning and advice.
- Creates rapid reviews on energy, climate, and sustainability topics.
- Supports climate and energy infrastructure project development including grant writing and business case development.
- Provides moderation and facilitation support.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

2008 – 2023 | DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

- Created internal impact investment strategies and business cases for the implementation of programs and policies.
- Negotiated agreements for major sustainability and energy projects with government and community partners.
- Presented at major conferences and events and was a sustainability issues media spokesperson.
- Identified and applied for external grants, rebate programs or other means of funding sustainability initiatives.
- Developed and spearhead programs, policies, plans and projects.
- Managed budgets, staff, volunteers, and graduate student research assistants.

HEAD OF EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT (ATLANTIC CANADA)

2005 – 2007 | ENVIRONMENT CANADA

- Led a unit that supported public school programming, community development, and national and regional education and engagement program assessment and business case development.
- Chaired and facilitated national and regional sessions on topics such as sustainable development education, climate change, and federal-provincial environmental education and water priorities.
- Developed strategic planning and policy frameworks for Labrador and regional education and engagement units within the Department.

SPECIAL PROJECTS ADVISOR AND COMMUNITY ANIMATOR

1997 – 2005 | ENVIRONMENT CANADA

- Worked with the Joint Action Group to design and implement a public participation process to recommend acceptable cleanup options for the Sydney Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens Project.
- Managed funding support for an environment and health community capacity building program (Community Animation Program) in Atlantic Canada.
- Helped develop and facilitate fundraising, strategic planning and public policy sessions for hundreds of community group participants in Atlantic Canada.

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING AND PROGRAM OFFICER

1993 - 1997 | CLEAN NOVA SCOTIA FOUNDATION

- Responsible for managing five community-based programs including EnviroTowns, a program on sustainable communities, and Water-Wise, a water conservation program. Coordinated a province-wide waste education program, which included managing staff and budgets and developing programming.
- Facilitated a variety of community meetings on energy issues, water conservation, sustainable communities, and solid waste.
- Involved in writing the public consultation report on solid waste management for the Nova Scotia Department of the Environment. This information was used in the development of the solid waste management regulations enacted in 1996.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATOR

1989 - 1992

- Project Supervisor for the Nova Scotia Youth Conservation Corp of five teams of students working in the field on environmental projects.
- Developed and implemented environmental education programs for the Halifax YMCA.

EDUCATION

- 2016** Certificate in Financial Management
[Cornell University](#)
- 2006** Master of Environmental Studies
[Dalhousie University](#)
- 1991** Bachelor of Science (Health Education)
[Dalhousie University](#)
- 2012** LEED Green Associate Certification
(maintained through annual education requirements)
[Canada Green Building Council](#)
- 2007** IAP2 Certificate in Public Participation.

AWARDS

- 2016** Mobius Hall of Fame Award - Divert NS
- 2016** Efficiency Nova Scotia Leadership Award
- 2015** Clean Climate Leader City of Halifax, Clean Foundation, and Ecology Action Centre
- 2014** Canada Green Building Council Academic Leadership Award
- 2012** Dalhousie Professional and Managerial Group (DPMG) Award for Outstanding Achievement
- 2004** Nova Scotia Federal Council Award for work on the Sydney Tar Ponds Project
- 2004** Citation of Excellence for Outstanding Community Engagement Work
Environment Canada



Over three decades presenting at hundreds of events, workshops, lectures and conferences on topics such as climate change, energy, sustainable transportation and non-profit management. Published co-author of academia papers. Active community volunteer.