

# Funds for Eco Echo

By Anna Robertson

The MRC des Collines recently announced \$63,000 in funding for the Community Forestry Education Project of the Outaouais Environmental Campus Eco Echo.

The funding falls under the Sustainable Forest Management Program of the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs and is administered by the MRC des Collines.

Eco Echo is a Wakefield-based organization whose mandate is to educate the public about sustainability and forest stewardship. The announcement took place at the administrative center of the MRC des Collines-de-l'Outaouais, in Chelsea, on Nov. 1 and was attended by a

wide range of representatives from the MRC des Collines, local municipalities, as well as Eco Echo founders Eric Corneau and Christopher Minnes.

The funding, with an additional contribution of \$15,000 from the La Pêche Green Fund, and \$2,000 from Caisse Desjardins-Hull Aylmer, will finance 12 community forestry workshops at the campus. Three workshops have already taken place, addressing the topics of forest appreciation, tree planting, and taking a forest inventory. The La Pêche Green Fund financed four of the 12 workshops.

The workshops are open to the public throughout the MRC but are targeted towards landowners who are interested in educating themselves about



The MRC des Collines announced \$63,000 in funding for Eco Echo, an organization whose mandate includes educating the public about forest stewardship. The announcement took place at the MRC building in Chelsea on Nov. 1. From left to right: Jeremy Howard and Michelle Villeneuve, Marc Carrière, Jacinth Brisson, Éric Corneau, Guillaume Lamoureux, Roger Larose, and Pierre Guénard.

Photo Anna Robertson

forest stewardship.

The mandate of all the workshops is, "to help promote sustainable forests in the community and to help landowners understand how to keep the forests healthy on their properties," explained Corneau. Eco

Echo workshops primarily take place outside which allows for a hands-on approach, he added.

Eco Ecco is located on 60 acres of land close to Hwy. 105 just south of Wakefield. The organization previously owned 160 acres but donated 100 acres

to Action Chelsea for the Respect of the Environment (ACRE). This land is now protected and is known as The Hundred Acre Wood.

For more information about Eco Echo and upcoming workshops go to [ecoecho.ca](http://ecoecho.ca).