



ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND SUSTAINABILITY SECTION

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From the Section Chair

Greetings,

I had hoped to get this out to you sooner, but the transition to online teaching (and my decision to switch all final exams to essays), combined with uncertainty over whether we would even have an annual conference this year (and if so, in what form), slowed this down. My apologies for the late submission.

As you are aware, ALSB will have its 2020 conference in August, but the format will be entirely virtual. While I will miss the opportunity to see and interact with you all personally, a virtual conference is better than none at all—plus there is at least one advantage in cost savings (\$200, and no travel or lodging costs). Many things will remain unchanged, such as sessions counting for CLE credit, awards for papers, and section meetings.

These last two items are of relevance to this newsletter. The Environmental Law and Sustainability section will once again have the **Nancy Kubasek Award** for the best paper that deals with issues of sustainability or environmental law. This is not possible, however, unless we have a high enough number of submissions. I therefore encourage you to **submit your articles** so that we have a robust enough pool for there to be an award. If needed, I can throw in one of my papers to get the numbers high enough, but for now I plan to be a judge (and welcome volunteers to assist in the blind judging). Even if you do not have a polished article, consider submitting your article idea and abstract as part of the **development track**, which provides an opportunity for feedback and helps keep interest in sustainability and environmental law high.

Regarding a **section meeting**, we will not have breakfast or lunch (though with a virtual conference, feel free to prepare something for yourself). Nor do we have a speaker—at least, not yet. Given the uncertainty of whether we would have a conference, I did not solicit any potential speakers. But having a virtual conference actually opens up more possibilities because **a speaker can join us from anywhere in the world**. For example, section members Adam Sulkowski and Bonnie Persons have brainstormed some great suggestions (including people they know) like those who fight against illegal poaching, environmental lawyers with Supreme Court cases, and lawyers knowledgeable about changes to environmental regulations under the Trump administration. In that spirit, if any of you know somebody working in sustainability or environmental fields—including (perhaps especially?) non-lawyers—then then by all means **send your suggestion along**.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts about our section meeting, and I hope that you all consider joining us—even if it is remotely.

Jeff Todd



Montreal Memories 2019



Paola Perez-Aleman of McGill University spoke about her interdisciplinary research related to sustainability of indigenous rights, specifically on participatory mechanism for rule make and how we can help.



Nancy Kubasek Award for Outstanding Environmental Sustainability Paper was received by Carol Miller for The Demise of Migratory Bird Practices under MBTA, ESA, CCCCWA and OSCLA