## La Savonnerie Olivier Soapery

Ste-Anne-de-Kent, NB

"To encourage a culture of environmental stewardship among entrepreneurs it is important to recognize outstanding environmental efforts and increase support for environmental education."

Pierre Pelletier, Vice-President La Savonnerie Olivier Soapery

La Savonnerie Olivier Soapery is a family owned and operated eco-manufacturer of natural skin care products that are exported internationally. In addition to manufacturing environmentally friendly products, owners Pierre Pelletier and Isabel Gagné also work hard to ensure that their business operates within an eco-efficient framework.

To help the business achieve a high level of ecoefficiency, La Savonnerie Olivier Soapery is a member of the Eco-Vision Certification Program. This Program provides environmental standards for things such as lighting, recycling, re-using, reducing energy use, alternative packaging materials, and green marketing activities.

Pelletier and Gagné's eco-efficiency efforts include simple things like re-using paper and more complex issues such as product packaging. At La Savonnerie Olivier Soapery packaging is made with recycled paper, un-waxed cardboard and food coloring. Products are also available without packaging to reduce commercial waste.

While the benefits of operating a highly efficient and sustainable business are worthwhile, Pelletier and Gagné acknowledge that there are significant challenges involved. For technical support the owners utilize information from the Irving Eco-Centre: La Dune de Bouctouche. This community resource offers up-to-date knowledge and practical suggestions that can be directly applied to their business.

Pelletier and Gagné have built their business on the premise that economic development must not be detrimental to the sustainability of the environment, and in doing so have promoted environmental stewardship to their suppliers and customers.

To learn more about La Savonnerie Olivier Soapery visit www.oliviersoaps.com (E/F)

