Acadia Lifelong Learning (ALL) Science Discussion Group

- Purpose: to increase awareness and general knowledge of ALL members through reading and participating in discussions on recent science issues. These may be contentious with potential social and political implications. It is proposed that articles in review magazines written in accessible, non-academic language such as New Scientist, Scientific American and American Scientist are potential sources of these review articles.
- 2. Suggested method: a recent review article on a current topic is circulated and a facilitated discussion held where participants are urged to contribute their thoughts, much like a 'book club'. Ideally the discussion would not focus only on the science, but on the ramifications. For each meeting a facilitator is required who knows the subject under discussion well enough to guide the discussion and offer explanations, where necessary. The task of the facilitator is to promote friendly discussion and participation. A number of potential facilitators have been approached and have agreed to act.
- Format: to be decided at an initial meeting to allow some alternatives to be aired and decisions made about best size of group, frequency of meetings and desired location. The number of interested participants will determine the best location.
- 4. Location and room availability will also determine when and where meetings are held. A venue outside the University, in a neighbouring community might improve parking, accessibility and further our goal of decentralization. However, booking an outside venue may require that a small cost per person.
- 5. Every interested ALL member is welcome. A formal scientific education is not required.

If you were a member of this group last year, you are already on the email distribution list and will receive updates automatically.

If you would like to join this group, or you would like to learn more about it, please contact Howard Williams at <u>gruncle.howard@gmail.com</u> or 902-791-5194.

Thank you,

Acadia Lifelong Learning