



**– JANUARY 2016 –**

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## **ONGOING INITIATIVES**

### **1. Website Biographies**

Please submit your biography as well as a photo for the WECEC website. Councillors bio's and photos have been uploaded already.

### **2. Green Speaker Series – Future**

#### **David Noble\***

##### **Witness to Environmental Leadership, Founder of 2degreesC, Author**

David founded the mission-driven consultancy 2degreesC in 2003. Scientists have for a long-time warned that global warming of greater than 2°C risked irreversible and catastrophic climate change. Years later, in 2009, world leaders committed together, for the first time, to limit climate warming to 2°C. Over the decade of environmental leadership and action that ensued, David has worked alongside artists and activists, energetic kids and energy executives, national leaders and Nobel Laureates - anyone and everyone – responding, in whatever ways they could, to the environmental challenges of our time.

His work has taken him from the North Polar Region to the South, and to many places in between. He is a five-time observer of the international climate negotiations, where (among other things) he provided a leading voice in the growing international youth climate movement. He has trained repeatedly with former U.S. Vice-President Al Gore and top climate scientists to present the slideshow from the Academy Award-winning documentary film *An Inconvenient Truth*, and has authored or edited more than 50 publications in scientific journals, government and current affairs publications.

His first book, *Stepping up to the Climate Change Challenge: Perspectives on Local Government Leadership, Policy and Practice* (co-edited with Susan Gardner), was distributed to every mayor and chief administrator in municipalities across Canada. Prior to founding 2degreesC, David was a visiting scholar in transboundary environmental policy at The University of Texas at Austin and for nearly two years facilitated leadership development and experiential and travel-based learning in North and South America.

#### **Keynote topics**

- 1. Environmental Leadership in Action: The Best from the Hero Generation.**
- 2. What is the most pressing question facing humanity today?**

#### **Gianni Kovacevic\***

##### **Realistic Environmentalist**

Realistic Environmentalist, "Scientist", Humanitarian & Story Teller Gianni Kovacevic fascinates audiences with his artful storytelling and picturesque analysis that makes complicated theories interesting and far more understandable.

His recently published book, "My Electrician Drives a Porsche?" inspires readers on how to become enlightened participants in the unstoppable trends of changing demographics, technology, and in-turn, the importance of being a realistic environmentalist.

By illustrating what makes this combination factually possible, and how it affects many aspects of our daily lives, his goal is to create a ripple effect by empowering his fellow global citizens to embrace sensible development practices.

**Keynote Topic: Lessons on Realistic Environmentalism for the 21st century**

**Peter Corbyn\***

**Special Advisor for Climate Project Canada, Environmentalist, Innovator**

Peter Corbyn has been helping Canadian businesses and homeowners save energy and reduce their carbon footprint since the early 1990's. He launched the first Employee Energy Awareness Program in Ontario, Canada in 1992 for his employer at the time, Woodbridge Foam Corporation. He was the Environment Director for the Canadian Automotive Parts Manufacturers' Association in Toronto from 1996 to 2000.

Peter is a founding board member and currently Special Advisor for Climate Project Canada, the Canadian component of a global movement of more than 3,000 diverse and dedicated volunteers from around the world. These volunteers have been personally trained by former US Vice President and Nobel Laureate Al Gore to educate the public about the science and impacts of climate change as well as solutions to address the climate crisis.

Peter co-founded GreenNexus, developers of environmentally focused web-based platforms that provide people, organizations, and businesses with the ability to share and publish green knowledge. GreenNexus is a multiple KIRA award winner, including Most Promising Start-up (2009) and Technology Advancement and Innovation (2011).

Peter graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of New Brunswick in 1987. He currently lives in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada with his family.

**Keynote Topics:**

- 1) Greenwashing: Are you all talk?**
- 2) One Million Acts of Green for your Organization**
- 3) Corporate Sustainability: What does that mean and how do you get there?**

**Jason Thistlethwaite**

**Assistant Professor, University of Waterloo. Director, Climate Change Adaptation Project**

Jason is an Assistant Professor at the School of Environment, Enterprise and Development (SEED) at the University of Waterloo and a Fellow at the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI). He is the director of the Climate Change Adaptation Project: Canada, at the University of Waterloo, and holds a Ph.D. in global governance from the Balsillie School of International Affairs.

Jason's research focuses on the implications of the new environmental and climate change risks disclosure regime on the financial sector, and on recommendations to help align policy and industry's resources toward an effective approach to mitigate climate change. To inform this research, Jason works directly with business and government leaders in the insurance, banking, real estate, building, and investment industries. His research has been published in a number of academic and industry journals. He is also a frequent speaker and media contributor on Canada's growing vulnerability to extreme weather and a self-described "weather geek."

**Keynote Topic: A financial survival guide to climate change: Start saving now**

**Chris Early**

**Interpretive Biologist & Education Coordinator, University of Guelph**

Chris is the Arboretum's Interpretive Biologist and Education Coordinator. Chris teaches a variety of workshops on topics such as birds, dragonflies and art. Chris has written four bird field guides: Warblers of the Great Lakes Region and Eastern North America, Sparrows and Finches of the Great Lakes Region and Eastern North America, Hawks and Owls of Eastern North America and Waterfowl of Eastern North America published by Firefly Books, as well as a children's book called Birds A-Z. Chris is a leader for Quest Nature Tours, a Canadian tour company that takes people all over the planet to discover nature, and has led tours to the Canadian Arctic and Greenland, as well as 9 safari tours to Kenya and Tanzania, two tours of the Galapagos Islands and a Royal Ontario Museum tour to South Africa.

**Rob Shirkey**

**Executive Director, Our Horizon**

Rob, a lawyer from Toronto, is a recognized global authority on the subject of climate change warnings on gas pump nozzles. He has given lectures on the topic across North America and has been featured in media all over the world. His proposal has been endorsed by over a hundred academics and leaders in various disciplines from universities across North America. Over 50 communities in Canada have voted in favour of the concept and several U.S. cities are now pursuing the idea too.

Prior to founding Our Horizon and launching its unique approach to addressing climate change, Rob operated a private practice in downtown Toronto. He also has experience as an Assistant City Solicitor and Prosecutor. Rob's talks draw on the latest in climate change research. He gathers insights from psychology, sociology, economics, business, and law to build the case for demand-side, local action on climate change. His trial experience as a lawyer and his playful sense of humour makes him a compelling and entertaining speaker.

**Keynote Topic: Can a Simple Sticker help us act on Climate Change?**

**Diane Saxe**

**Environmental Commissioner of Ontario**

In the potential to build upon the successful Green Speaker Series event with former Environmental Commissioner Gord Miller, the incoming Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, whose appointment takes effect December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, may be invited to speak in 2016.

Dianne is one of Canada's most respected environmental lawyers, with 40 years' experience in environmental law and litigation. She has been rated as one of the world's top 25 environmental lawyers, according to Best of the Best, 2008, as well as Toronto's first Environmental Lawyer of the Year, according to Best Lawyers. As a certified Specialist in Environmental Law, and the only practitioner with a Ph.D. in environmental law, she is considered Canada's leading author on environmental law, and is an acclaimed public speaker. Awards have included Ontario Bar Association Distinguished Service Award, and the Osgoode Hall Lifetime Achievement Gold Key.

The Commissioner is appointed by the government, on the advice of the Legislature, for a term of five years, and must swear to "faithfully and impartially exercise the functions of the office," which is to uphold and protect the *Environmental Bill of Rights*.

#### **Peter Garforth**

##### **Principal, Garforth International llc**

Peter leads a consulting group set up to help companies, cities, communities, property developers and policy makers develop competitive approaches to reducing the economic and environmental impact of energy use. Peter's services have been retained by the City of Windsor to help in the development of a Municipal Energy Plan, the compelling rationale behind which could be explored in Green Speaker Series event.

Peter has also served as a visiting professor at Purdue University, lecturing on business and the economic aspects of energy, and is past-president of the board of trustees of the Toledo Opera, and vice-chairman of Downtown Toledo Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to the revitalization of the city core. Previously he ran a consultancy in Brussels, providing services to companies, utilities, governments and institutions in the USA and Europe, with projects in the USA, Eastern and Central Europe, Indonesia, India and Brazil. He was also the co-chairperson of the International Advisory Committee at the Alliance to Save Energy in Washington, D.C., a founding member of the European Business Council for a Sustainable Energy Future, a member of the Steering Committee on Energy Efficiency Financing of the Russian Federation, and chairman of the International Institute for Energy Conservation.

#### **Sarah Burch**

##### **Assistant Professor, University of Waterloo. Senior Fellow, CIGI**

Sarah is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Management at the University of Waterloo. Her research focuses on urban climate change governance, with an emphasis on practical, integrated approaches to sustainability. Sarah currently explores the dynamics of potentially transformative community-level innovation in response to climate change, and the drivers of emerging partnerships between the private and public sectors. This action-oriented and interdisciplinary research supports communities as they transition towards sustainability and fills a critical gap in our understanding of transformative development path shifts. Sarah writes and teaches about holistic and equitable strategies for building resilient, low-carbon communities.

Sarah holds a PhD in Resource Management and Environmental Studies from the University of British Columbia, Canada, and was a postdoctoral fellow at the Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford. She was a Contributing Author to the Fourth Assessment Report of the

Nobel Peace Prize winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in both Working Group II (Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability) and Working Group III (Mitigation of Climate Change).

**John Howard**

**Chairman of the Board, Canadian Association for Physicians for the Environment**

Dr. John Howard is a Professor of both Paediatrics and Medicine in the Schulich School of Medicine at the University of Western Ontario. His academic focus is on ecosystem health – considering human health in the context of the physical, social and economic environment. He is a strong advocate for environmental education for medical professionals in Canada and in the world. Dr. Howard is a highly recognized teacher and is the recipient of over 30 teaching awards at Western University. He has a full clinical practice that focuses on paediatric gastroenterology.

**Keynote Topic: Green Infrastructure and Prevention Health Care**

**Christopher Ragan**

**Professor of Economics, Chair of Canada's Ecofiscal Commission**

Dr. Chris Ragan is an Associate Professor of Economics at McGill University, and the Chair of Canada's Ecofiscal Commission, a group of Canadian economists seeking to broaden the discussion of environmental pricing reform beyond the academic sphere and into the realm of practical policy application

**Glen Murray**

**Ontario Minister of the Environment and Climate Change**

\* Speakers would be hired through formal guest speaking agencies, increasing costs and likely reducing the number of events which may be held in the year.

**3. Communications**

**A. Overload Ad**

The Overload Ad has begun airing at Leamington's Southpoint Cinemas, and will continue through March.

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**WECEC BUDGET – SUMMARY**

<b>2016 Budget</b>		
<b>Expense</b>	<b>Credit</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
2016 Budget	\$8,000	
Earth Day		\$40
Pat on the Back		\$2,500
Website Domain Renewal		\$30
Website Hosting Fee		\$400
Green Speaker #1		\$750 - \$1,000
Green Speaker #2		\$750 - \$1,000
Green Speaker #3		\$750 - \$1,000
Green Speaker #4 (Possible)		\$750
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>	<b>\$5,970</b>
<b>ESTIMATED TOTAL REMAINING</b>	<b>\$2,030</b>	

**– August and September 2015 –**

**WECEC WORK PLAN 2015**

<b>Strategic Direction #1 – Profile of WECEC</b>		
<b>GOALS</b>	<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>TIME FRAME</b>
<b>Goal:</b> Improve relationships with City and County Councils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prepare an annual report of accomplishments and send to City and County Councils, environmental organizations, boards etc.</li> </ul>	Yearly
<b>Goal:</b> Improve relationships with other organizations, committees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hold a meeting with other environmental organizations and committees to share information;</li> <li>▪ Continue to pursue opportunities for partnering on community education/public awareness;</li> <li>▪ Hold annual Pat on the Back Awards presenting \$2,000 to local environmental organizations and schools.</li> </ul>	Yearly Ongoing Yearly
<b>Strategic Direction #2 – Advocacy</b>		
<b>GOALS</b>	<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>TIME FRAME</b>
<b>Goal:</b> Provide advice on environmental issues to the City of Windsor, County of Essex and its area municipalities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Assess issues referred from City and County Councils and respond with suggested recommendations;</li> <li>▪ Provide recommendations to City and County Councils on environmental matters identified through our own initiative.</li> </ul>	Ongoing Ongoing
<b>Goal:</b> Advocate for environmental groups in Windsor Essex County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Accept delegations from environmental groups and advocate on behalf of these groups to City and County Councils.</li> </ul>	Ongoing
<b>Goal:</b> Provide advice to City and County Council related to Federal and Provincial initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop recommendations related to Federal and Provincial plans, policies and initiatives to be forwarded to City and County Councils.</li> </ul>	Ongoing
<b>Strategic Direction #3 – Public Engagement and Education</b>		
<b>GOALS</b>	<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>TIME FRAME</b>
<b>Goal:</b> Increase awareness of WECEC by the public.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain a website and Facebook page;</li> <li>▪ Strategically identify and attend community events;</li> <li>▪ Maintain a professional display for participation at community events.</li> </ul>	Monthly Ongoing Ongoing
<b>Goal:</b> Increase engagement of public on environmental issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop environmental education campaigns and messaging to help inform Windsor Essex County residents about environmental issues;</li> <li>▪ Host free Green Speaker Series events with environmental experts highlighting environmental issues.</li> </ul>	Ongoing Ongoing

## – August and September 2015 –

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### List of Priorities (including but not limited to)

- Greening the City – specifically more green roofs and other types of green infrastructure
- Walkability, complete streets, trails, active transportation
- Review of existing tree cutting bylaw
- Pollution issues, cancer causing environmental issues
- Right to Know by-law
- Parkway natural areas
- Know Your City tour
- Information sharing about what other municipalities are doing
- Invasive species control
- Youth engagement
- Anti-Idling

### Current List of Subcommittees

1. Air