

**News from Dundas in Transition for October 2009**  
**www.dundasintransition.ca**

Dear Friends,

This newsletter covers some of the Dundas In Transition happenings over the summer and our coming events. Please feel free to pass this on to other networks. **Future events are highlighted in red throughout this news letter.**

**We need more active participants, invite a friend to our next meeting which takes place on Friday October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Dundas Town Hall at 7.30pm.**

This presentation is a call to rally on Oct 24, International Day of Action on Climate Change, for Hamiltonians and area residents to voice their demand that Canada's delegation at Copenhagen in December take strong action in order to reduce carbon dioxide levels to below 350 ppm.

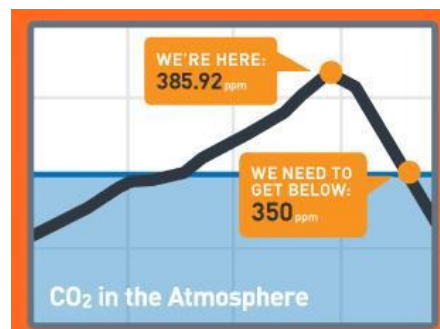
Panelists:

**Don McLean** - Environment Hamilton

**Atif Kubursi** - Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Economics,  
McMaster University

**Ashish Pujari** - Assoc. Prof., DeGroote School of Business,  
McMaster University

**Mike Nickerson** - author of "Life, Money & Illusion - Living on Earth as if we want to stay"



Free admission, donations appreciated. Refreshments will be provided following the discussion. For more information, please visit the following websites: [www.350.org](http://www.350.org) [www.Hamilton350.com](http://www.Hamilton350.com)

**October 24<sup>th</sup> - An important Day**  
**International Day of Climate Action - Rally in Hamilton**

**Help send a message to world leaders that the new global treaty on cutting greenhouse gas emissions is based on science.**

October 24<sup>th</sup> is an International Day of Climate Action to tell the leaders assembling in Copenhagen in December of the urgent need for action.

**Meet at 12:00 noon in Gore Park** to get directions to different presentations; DO-iT will be presenting in Stewart Memorial Church Hall at 114 John Street North, before joining the Walk at 3pm. Look for the new Dundas Ontario in Transition Banner as we walk to the Federal Building.

**Stand With Us**  
for real action on climate change  
**12 noon - Saturday October 24**  
**Gore Park**  
3 pm - Walk to the Federal Building to Deliver a Message to Decision Makers  
Part of the global day of action in over 100 countries  
It's time to get back to a safe level of greenhouse gases:  
**350.org**  
Hamilton's Day of Action includes: Music, Workshops, Films, Local Food, Presentations  
(905) 549-0900 info@hamilton350.com  
[www.hamilton350.com](http://www.hamilton350.com)



**OTHER EVENTS THIS PAST SUMMER**

**June 17<sup>th</sup> 2009**

It is now official! Dundas joined the ranks of 227 official Transition Initiatives around the globe, becoming the third such initiative in Canada, after Peterborough and Guelph. Victoria and Nelson BC and Ottawa are other Canadian initiatives.

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**July 12th – A showing of The Power of Community**

Over sixty people came to a showing of this keynote film that is becoming a standard part envisioning the changes that will be needed in a post-peak oil world. It describes how Cuba survived after most of its oil and fertilizer supplies were cut off after the fall of the USSR.

If you missed it, you can catch it again on **Sunday November 1<sup>st</sup> at St. Paul's United Church, 29 Park St, Dundas at 7.00pm.**



**September 11th – Food Security Presentation and Food Swap / Donation**

More than 15% of our oil consumption is used in the growing, processing and distribution of food. Our local food security is threatened if the current global supply chains are disrupted.

In this presentation Ian Graham and Dave Carson looked at the re-skilling needed to grow food locally and the many different locations where food growing could be done, from backyards, raised beds, community gardens, garden sharing.

A Food Exchange was held, some food was exchanged and some was donated to the Dundas Food Bank. Discussions after the meeting lead to many ideas.



**Dundas in Transition helps Dundas Farmers Market donate to Dundas Food Bank**

One great outcome of the September 11<sup>th</sup> Food Security meeting was the suggestion by a member of Dundas Farmers Market for DO-iT to collect surplus food at the end of each market and take it to the food bank.

We are grateful to the following vendors for helping those in need:

**Berry Fresh Farms**  
**Drummond Farms**  
**ManoRun Organic Farm**  
**Plan B Organic Farms**  
**Simpler Thyme Organic Farm**  
**Waterhall Farm**



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**September 16<sup>th</sup> Canning Workshop**

Thanks to everyone that came out to our pear canning workshop in Dundas. This was a joint effort by **Hamilton Fruit Tree project**, **Greening Sacred Spaces and Dundas in Transition**. There were 17 participants and they canned enough for everyone to take some home with them. Thanks to St. Augustine's church for the use of their kitchen and space.

**October 6<sup>th</sup> Climate Change Champions Speed Greening Event**

Climate Change Champions is a joint venture between Environment Hamilton and Green Venture. It prepares custom-made plans to help "Champions" to cut their energy use - which saves money - and helps the environment at the same time. Their project goals are for the Champions to cut their energy use - and Greenhouse Gas emissions by 10% for 2012, by 20% by 2020 and to sign up 500 Hamilton residents to make their own pledges.



On October 6<sup>th</sup> DO-iT participated with three presentations at their "Speed Greening Event" - a speed dating format was used to circulate the room and see presentations ranging from car sharing, 100 mile food events, off-grid housing, peak oil, transition towns and more.

**OTHER EVENTS ON THE HORIZON**

***Sunday October 18th, and every two weeks thereafter***  
***The Heart and Soul group at Dundas Old Town Hall 3:30pm - 5:30pm***

The Heart and Soul groups is a time for joyful community sharing in a non-faith context, with friendship, relaxation, reflection and discussion and perhaps a little singing too.

***Sunday October 18, 2:30pm.***  
***Eco Walk starting at Christian Life Assembly, 165 King St W, Dundas.***

In preparation of the International Day of Climate Action on October 24<sup>th</sup>, Churches in the Dundas and West Hamilton area invite you to an Eco Walk. At each stop there will be brief moments of reflection, and prayers led by clergy or laypersons for the leaders who will meet in December in Copenhagen. These Leaders, including our own Prime Minister Stephen Harper, will make momentous decisions that will impact on you, your children, grandchildren, and our descendents forever.

Please car-pool when possible on October 18th (and every other day!) and drop your refreshments off at Knox Church in advance. This event is organized by the Eco Churches of West Hamilton

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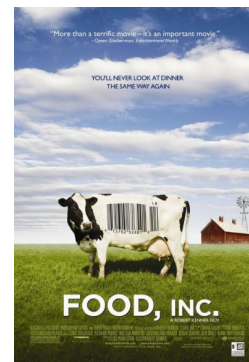
**Saturday October 31<sup>st</sup> Tomato Canning Workshop**

Organized by DO-it, this is the time to learn how to preserve tomatoes and tomato based products. Enjoy your own pasta sauce all winter long! Contact Jim Sweetman ([jsweetman2@cogeco.ca](mailto:jsweetman2@cogeco.ca)) or Janie Van Essen ([jvanessen@hotmail.com](mailto:jvanessen@hotmail.com)) to register.

**Monday November 2<sup>nd</sup> - The Ancaster Film Festival is showing "Food Inc" at the Ancaster Silver City at 4pm and 7:15pm. Entrance as a non member is \$9 at 4pm and \$10 at 7:15pm**

This film exposes the highly mechanized underbelly of the US food industry that has been hidden from the American consumer with the consent of their government's regulatory agencies, USDA and FDA. The USA's food supply is now controlled by a handful of corporations that often put profit ahead of consumer health, the livelihood of the farmer or the safety of workers and their own environment.

Because of Canada's proximity to the United States we are faced with the same problems.



**Friday - November 27<sup>th</sup> – General Meeting - A Simpler "Transition" Holiday Season  
Dundas Old Town Hall; 7.30pm**

How could the holiday season be spent in a simpler, lower consumption fashion? How can we spend time with friends and family without the latest DVD, X-box or video game? **We would like to hear from you if you have talents to share or demonstrate to fellow Dundas transitioners.**

- Old customs – give a demonstration or present for others to try
- Food dishes – share the seasonal recipe, bring to sell or exchange
- Making or exchanging gifts – with high people impact and low CO2 impact
- Games and puzzles
- Decorating for the holiday season with local and hand made resources
- Making music, telling stories, keeping warm from the inside.

Email us at [dundasintransition@gmail.com](mailto:dundasintransition@gmail.com) if you can help create the future low impact holiday season customs

**[Cheerful disclaimer from the Transition Town Wiki](#)**

**Just in case you were under the impression that Transition is a process defined by people who have all the answers, you need to be aware of a key fact.**

**We truly don't know if this will work. Transition is a social experiment on a massive scale. What we are convinced of is this:**

**If we wait for the governments, it'll be too little, too late  
If we act as individuals, it'll be too little  
But if we act as communities, it might just be enough, just in time.**

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