

# Bringing Copenhagen Home: a campus-wide climate change teach-in

## Objectives and Program

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### Summary

These are the objectives & program for “Bringing Copenhagen Home” Teach-in event at University of Winnipeg on Tue Feb 2, 2010.

### Problem / Need

Currently, many people do not feel empowered to take action on climate change. **People need:**

- **Hope** - to feel as though they can make a difference and that it is possible to succeed
- **Inspiration** - their own vision for a positive future
- **Community** - to feel as though they are not alone; to be connected to resources they need
- **To be heard** - their perspectives given value and appreciation by others



### Objectives & Scope

**This Teach-in will** provide a venue for information exchange that

- **Educates** people about climate change science and why the issue is urgent, what personal, policy (international and domestic), and economic/ business action needs to be taken
- **Motivates** people to feel that taking action would be meaningful and valuable
- **Activates** people to take that action in individually and in concert with others

### Expectations

**By the end of the event, we want all participants** (including the organizers) **to have achieved the following:**

- a sense of community
- a sense of having participated in a positive event
- a sense of having been heard
- a sense of having learned from each other
- a sense of knowing what the next steps will be and who will do them

## Bringing Copenhagen Home: a *campus-wide climate change teach-in*

### - Program

Tue Feb 2, Convocation Hall, Wesley Hall, University  
Winnipeg, 515 Portage Ave



of

Time	Activity
9:00	Doors open
9:15 – 9:45	<b>Opening remarks</b> / welcome / orientation
10:00 - 10:45	<b>Morning workshop sessions: <i>Educate &amp; Motivate</i></b>
10:45 - 11:00	break
11:00 – 11:45	<b>Morning workshop sessions: <i>Educate &amp; Motivate</i> (continued)</b>
11:45 – 12:15	Recap from morning sessions
12:15 – 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 1:45	<b>Afternoon workshop sessions: <i>Activate</i></b>
1:45 – 2:00	break
2:00 – 2:45	<b>Afternoon workshop sessions: <i>Activate</i> (continued)</b>
3:00 – 4:00	Wrap up from afternoon sessions & planning next steps

## 1.1. Morning workshop sessions: Educate & Motivate

Session	Discussion ideas	Discussion leader
<p><b>Condition Critical: A Climate Diagnosis</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why are the world's top climatologists telling us that we are rapidly running out of time to prevent truly alarming changes to the global climate?</li> <li>• Why are they so concerned? How much time do we likely have? Why are they saying that we must actually reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere to 350 parts per million?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Danny Blair</b> is the Chair of the Department of Geography at the University of Winnipeg, where he has been a faculty member since 1987. He is co-chair of Climate Change Connection, Manitoba's principal climate change outreach organization. His main research interests are climate variability and change in Canada's western interior, especially as recorded in the instrumental period and as represented in the synoptic climatology of the region. Danny was a contributing author of Canada's National Assessment of Climate Change released in 2008, and is a frequent presenter and participant in workshops about prairie climate change impacts and adaptation strategies. He obtained his BSc and MSc degrees from the University of Regina and his PhD from the University of Manitoba.</p>
<p><b>Copenhagen: The Change That Wasn't</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change is a global problem that demands a global response.</li> <li>• Is a United Nations led approach the best mechanism for establishing an international approach today and in the future? What strengths can multilateralism bring to finding solutions? What are the weaknesses of the process? What other multilateral agreements provide a reason for optimism?</li> <li>• Are the differences between the developed world and the developing world too deep to support a global climate change agreement? If so, what are they? Are the expectations placed on world leaders to reach an agreement too high or too low? How closely do public perceptions regarding the negotiations match the reality of the negotiations? Is the gulf too great between international action and the local concerns?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Dennis Cunningham</b> has worked with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) on a variety of areas including communications, climate change, business and sustainable development and corporate social responsibility for almost a decade. As a Project Manger with the Climate Change and Energy team he is engaged in providing policy expertise and project management to several provincial governments on greenhouse gas regulatory frameworks, leads IISD's involvement with the Western Climate Initiative and participates in international meetings like the climate treaty negotiations as an official observer.</p>

Session	Discussion ideas	Discussion leader
<p><b>The Energy Of Change: Meeting Our Needs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current use of energy is unbalanced in favor of the developed countries. How do we change this? Can we lower our current levels of consumption and maintain our current lifestyle? Is anyone doing this already? How can we move forward?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Kelly Whelan-Enns</b> is a writer, workshop facilitator and the resident Media &amp; Research specialist at Manitoba Wildlands. He has spent the last 15 years working in the environmental non-profit sector in Manitoba. His work has included planning book launches for Elizabeth May, current Leader of the Green Party of Canada and more recently the Vigil for Copenhagen at the Legislative building this past December. On top of all the ENGO work he does, Kelly teaches classes in meditation, qigong and the sister art of Taijiquan called Baguazhang. A lifelong student of nature, Kelly grew up south of Winnipeg on the Red River.</p>
<p><b>Get Psyched About Solving Climate Change</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Although the problem of climate change is depressing, the solutions provide considerable opportunity for excitement.</li> <li>• This workshop will be an opportunity to talk about our role at this difficult and critical time in history. What new opportunities do the unprecedented challenges of caring for the earth offer? What unique personal growth and unrealized community resources can we bring to the task? Each of us have good ideas – let's hear them!.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Steve Rauh</b> started his public policy work in Berkeley California in 1969 when he initiated a special environmental and arts education program for youth. His public policy work has focused on the relationships between social and environmental issues in areas such as multiculturalism, environmental restoration, and social well-being.</p> <p>In 1982 he co founded the international Conference on the Fate and Hope of the Earth which was held bi-annually in New York, Washington D.C., Ottawa, and Managua, Nicaragua. The conferences were major contributors to developing understanding of global sustainability and social equity.</p>

## 1.2. Afternoon workshop sessions: Activate

Time: 1:00 – 1:45 pm, 15 min break, 2:00 – 2:45 pm

Session	Discussion ideas	Discussion leader
<p><b>We Are Not Alone: Making Connections</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change is an overwhelming topic and sometimes it feels that an individual really can't do much. But you are not alone!</li> <li>Who else is working on climate change in our community? How can you get involved in a meaningful way to help the planet? Find out about environmental organizations making a difference, and about the state of activism in Manitoba.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Anne Lindsey</b> has been the Executive Director of the Manitoba Eco-Network (MEN) since 1989, overseeing its development into a thriving hub for environmental inquiry and action. Anne has also served as an active volunteer on environmental issues since the early 1980s.</p> <p>Groups she has helped to create, or worked with, include Concerned Citizens of Manitoba (nuclear issues), Time to Respect Earth's Ecosystems (forestry issues), Campaign for Pesticide Reduction! Winnipeg (pesticides), and the Organic Food Council of Manitoba (organic farming). She is also co-chair of Climate Change Connection's Steering Committee.</p>
<p><b>Less is More: Alternatives to Consumerism</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Despite the thrills and pleasures offered by consumerism, it's wrecking the planet. Are there alternatives to consumerism besides "green consumerism" - more of the same, only green?</li> <li>Can we create an ever-higher quality of life on ever-lower consumption? Is there anyone already living this way? Do we really want it?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Mark Burch</b> is an author, educator, and group facilitator. He has practiced simple living since the 1960s, and since 1995, has offered workshops and courses on voluntary simplicity. He lectures at the University of Winnipeg, and has been a featured guest on CBC-TV <i>Man Alive</i>, and <i>What On Earth?</i>, CBC Radio <i>Ideas</i>, Vision TV's <i>The Simple Way</i>, and a regular radio columnist on <i>Discovering Simplicity</i> for CBC-Winnipeg.</p> <p>Mark has written four books on voluntary simplicity, his most recent, <i>De-junking: A Tool for Clutterbusting</i>. Mark Burch has taught meditation, intensive journaling, and T'ai-chi. He is a global citizen tending an organic garden who lives in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada</p>

Session	Discussion ideas	Discussion leader
<p><b>Activating Your Campus: Getting S**t Done</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the 1960s, 70s, and 80s university and college students played a crucial role in fostering political, environmental, economic, and social change. In recent years, there has been a serious decline in student involvement even with today's pressing issues.</li> <li>What is the student's role as an activist in this generation? Can we really make a difference? How do we emulate the student activists that came before us?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Caleigh Christie</b> is Co-President of the Geography and Environmental Studies Student's Association at the University of Winnipeg and is a Physical Geography student.</p> <p>Growing up in Whiteshell provincial park, Caleigh has always been passionate about the natural world around her. Since entering university, Caleigh has upped the anti in terms of her environmental activism. In an effort to spark attention and awareness about the Climate Summit in Copenhagen last December, particularly among the student body, Caleigh played a crucial role in planning and organizing several on-campus forms of activism. These included a Freeze Flash Mob, and various petition signing campaigns such as the KyotoPlus Petition and the Seal the Deal Campaign.</p>
<p><b>Plugging In: Becoming Powerful and Effective</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When we think of environmental action, images of protesters chained to trees or hanging from banners often come to mind. There is a much broader range of tactics used by environmentalists including: direct actions, photo-ops, direct communications and protests or demonstrations.</li> <li>How do these activities differ? When do we choose one over another? This workshop helps us assess tactics by asking, who we are trying to influence, and examining the power within our movement to effect change.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Josh Brandon</b> is an environmental activist and researcher. He has planned and participated in campaigns for ecological and social justice since the 1990s on issues such as climate change, globalization, and biotechnology.</p> <p>He is currently the Living Green Coordinator with Resource Conservation Manitoba and Water Caucus Coordinator with Manitoba Eco-Network. He is also on the National Council of the Canadian Environmental Network and chairs its National Agriculture Caucus</p>