



Good morning from the SWR team,

The month of October has been an exciting one in the environmental sector here in Waterloo Region. After a visit from the [David Suzuki Blue Dot Tour](#), an election forum that focused on the environment and much more, it feels like change is coming.

November is set to carry on that momentum. ClimateActionWR is hosting its kick-off event that will encourage action and bring together those working towards our community wide GHG reduction target. TravelWise is hosting a public event in partnership with Public Health to encourage healthy and sustainable commuting programs at work.

Read on for information about these two events, updates on our other programs, and ways we can work together to make organizations in Waterloo Region more sustainable. Thanks to each of you for the support of our vision and all the amazing things you do!

Cheers,

Tova Davidson
Executive Director
Sustainable Waterloo Region

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Regional Carbon Initiative Members

New Regional Carbon Initiative Members



[Mennonite Economic Development Associates](#)

Observing Organization
 RCI Member since: 2014

Renewing Regional Carbon Initiative Members



[Cambridge and North Dumfries Hydro](#)

Observing Organization
 RCI Member since: 2012

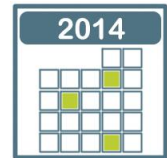


[Virtual Causeway](#)

Bronze Pledging Partner
 RCI member since: 2010
 20% reduction commitment from 2009

If interested in joining the Regional Carbon Initiative, please see the [Sustainable Waterloo Region website](#) for further details and contact [Tova Davidson](#) with any questions.

Upcoming Events



Join us for Creating Action! *Engaging Community. Building Momentum.*

With a 6% emission reduction target set, now is the time for our community to reconnect and gain momentum for progress towards the [Climate Action Plan for Waterloo Region](#). Increase your understanding of the Action Plan and its potential as it is brought to life through various perspectives during this event. This is a key time to gather existing and interested parties in one space to spark conversation. We invite you to join in on the opportunity to connect with lead collaborators of the Action Plan and explore areas of contribution and support. Participating organizations, community decision makers and drivers of action, among others within the sustainability network, will play important roles in collectively achieving the Region-wide emission reduction target.

Date: November 13, 2014

Time: 5:30 to 7:00 pm

Location: THEMUSEUM, 10 King St W, Kitchener, ON

Moving Employees: Healthy & Sustainable Transportation for Workplaces in Waterloo Region

Is your organization ready to benefit as Waterloo Region transforms its travel patterns? Did you know that helping your staff commute sustainably can benefit your business, and that there are tools and resources available to help? Stop by for an exciting presentation and panel discussion on how Waterloo Region is evolving and how organizations across the Region are already seeing the benefits. The event is facilitated by TravelWise and the Region of Waterloo Public Health.

Date: November 26, 2014

Time: 8:30 to 11:00 am

Location: Cambridge City Hall Bowman Room, 50 Dickson Street, Cambridge

Registration: [Online](#)

SWR Updates



Develop, Connect, and Contribute: Volunteer with SWR!

Interested in gaining professional development experience? Looking to network with sustainable-minded organizations across Waterloo Region? Searching for an activity where you can make meaningful contributions and see the results of your work? Sustainable Waterloo Region is currently recruiting for some exciting volunteer positions that offer all of the above!

Our two highlighted opportunities this month is for our Admin Coordinator and Web Developer. If you would like more information on these positions or other volunteer opportunities, visit the [volunteer page](#) on our website.

Research, Ideas, & Community Events



saveONenergy: Dollars to \$ense Workshop

At this workshop you will learn how:

- Sell energy management opportunities in your facility
- Develop an effective energy management plan
- Maximize the ROI of energy conservation measures

Date: Thursday October 23, 2014

Time: 8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Location: Rebel Creek Golf Club, 1517 Synder's Road, Petersburg, ON

To attend please register [here](#).

Canada's Environment Ministers Make Climate Change a Priority

Federal, provincial and territorial environment ministers agreed that climate change will be on the agenda for the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) moving forward on an ongoing basis, with the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris as the topic of their meeting in 2015. After 2015, Ministers, in collaboration with senior officials, will decide the topic for the following years. Ministers agreed to work collaboratively within provincial and territorial jurisdictions to achieve real reductions in greenhouse gases, which will support economic competitiveness as [Canada transitions to a low carbon economy](#).

300,000 March Against Climate Change in New York

An international day of action on climate change brought hundreds of thousands of people

onto the streets of New York City September 21, exceeding organizers' hopes for the largest protest on the issue in history. Organizers estimated that some 310,000 people, including United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, former US Vice President Al Gore, actor Leonardo DiCaprio and elected officials from the United States and abroad joined the People's Climate March, ahead of the UN-hosted summit in the city to discuss reducing carbon emissions that threaten the environment. The New York rally, the largest single protest ever held on the topic of climate change, followed similar events in 166 countries [including Britain, France, Afghanistan and Bulgaria.](#)

Nicholas Stern: The State of the Climate - And What We Might Do About It

The UN begins its first Climate Summit, enlisting the world to work together on a problem that's too big for any single country to solve alone. Economist Lord Nicholas Stern helped write a report that outlines where we are now — and what we could do next. It's a big vision for cooperation, with a payoff that goes far beyond averting disaster. He asks: [How can we use this crisis to spur better lives for all?](#)

Who Should Declare Climate Change a "Health Emergency"?

A leading medical journal has added its voice to calls for climate change to be declared a health emergency. The British Medical Journal, which has an international reach, last month published its first article purely on climate science. The editor, Fiona Godlee, said doctors needed to know the facts to become effective advocates on climate change. She urged the World Health Organization (WHO) to announce a global public health emergency in light of the [threats posed by rising temperatures.](#)

Carbon Credits Give \$664 Benefits Per Ton

Carbon-reduction projects generate benefits beyond climate protection of about \$664 per metric ton of emissions, according to an Imperial College London University survey. The study into 59 projects showed they bring ecosystem gains including soil protection, water regulation and biodiversity conservation, the university said. The survey's estimate compares with an average price of \$4.90 a metric ton in the voluntary carbon market, where companies and individuals buy credits, [Ecosystem Marketplace data show.](#)

From the Blog

The Value of Peer-driven Learning

By: Steve Yessie

The room a buzz with networking, Sustainable Waterloo Region kicked off our 2014-2015 Regional Carbon Initiative event season on a high note last Thursday with a focus on network connections and organizational green teams. While it is the same Regional Carbon Initiative (RCI) we have grown to know and love, members can expect some notable changes [\[Read more\]](#)



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