



Welcome to the February edition of the Community Update.

We are excited to bring you information that will help you to run your business in a more sustainable way. Coming up at the end of February is Carpool Week – read more below on how you can win prizes for sharing the ride, and bring glory to your organization. If you are interested in what is happening with ClimateActionWR, we have some details on the leadership committee and its activities, and finally, the winners of the photo contest are revealed. We hope you enjoy this month's edition.

Please forward to those in your network that you think would benefit from this information. And of course, if you have contacts that you think would benefit from being part of the network, we would love to chat with them.

Happy February!

Cheers,

Tova Davidson
Executive Director
Sustainable Waterloo Region

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Upcoming Events

Managing Behaviour Change: A Key to Sustainability Program Success

Having trouble getting colleagues to act more sustainably? Join us for a lively and interactive workshop facilitated by Harbourfront Centre Sustainability Program Champion Randy Sa'd and national speaker, author and professor, Joel Hilchey. Focused on improving your ability to effectively manage behavioural change, this session will offer



participants challenging exercises, an organizational self-assessment, action planning support and an honest review of the Harbourfront sustainability story.

Date: Thursday February 28, 2015

Time: 7:30 to 10:00 am

Location: Waterloo North Hydro, 526 Country Squire Road, Kitchener, ON N2J 4A3

Registration: [Online](#)

6th Annual Evening of Recognition

Mark your calendar to join us in celebrating the sustainability-focused actions of local organizations and the release of our 2014 Report! Registration will open the end of the month.

SWR Updates



#CarpoolSelfieWR Campaign

It's that time of year again... February 23 - February 27 marks Waterloo Region's annual Carpool Week! The TravelWise Team is making this Carpool Week more engaging than ever for member organizations and the wider community. The Carpool Selfie Twitter Campaign will run over 5 business days to showcase how carpooling can be a fun and easy way to commute around the region! We are giving out daily prizes on Twitter and awarding the most active TravelWise organization with the Team Travel Award. Follow the action on @TravelWiseWR and [\[Read More\]](#)

Photo Contest Results

Our photo contest is over, the votes are in, and we have our 6th annual photo contest winners! We want to give a hearty thank-you to Borealis Grille & Bar and everyone who submitted photos. They were all great entries and we look forward to seeing what you come up with for our 7th Annual Photo Contest next year! Congratulations to our winners. Their photos will be featured in our 2014 Report that will be launched at our Evening of Recognition on April 30th. [\[View Photos Here\]](#)

ClimateActionWR

Climate Action Waterloo Region has started the 2015 calendar year off strong with the Leadership Committee establishing their priorities for their initial one-year term. In an effort to best support the Actions and Opportunities outlined in the Climate Action Plan and maximize committee members' areas of interest and expertise, the Leadership Committee has subdivided into three Sub-committees: Transportation, Industrial-Commercial-Institutional (ICI) Energy, and Residential Energy. With the purpose of the Leadership Committee being to add capacity, increase the uptake of existing actions, and advance opportunities, our committee members are now meeting on a monthly basis and staying hard at work. Looking to stay informed with ClimateActionWR? Follow us on Twitter @ClimateActionWR or on Facebook at ClimateActionWR.

Research, Ideas, & Community Events



Sustainable Food Systems Speaker Series

THEMUSEUM is delighted to present its Sustainable Food Systems Speaker Series, taking place for 8 weeks on Sundays at 1:30pm, beginning January 18, 2015 until March 8, 2015. Please join us to sample the fresh cultural content we have foraged for you. We expect you

will walk away satiated after sampling the diverse voices, nourishing your connection to the amazing food resources that our region offers. [\[Read More\]](#).

Justin Trudeau Vows to Set National Carbon Reduction Targets

CBC News. February 6 2015

A Liberal federal government would set national targets for reducing carbon emissions but would allow provinces to design their own policies to meet them, Justin Trudeau said last Friday. The Liberal leader announced he'll work with premiers to establish a Canadian carbon-reduction standard and provide federal funding to help provinces achieve the targets. [\[Read More\]](#)

Global Warming Slowdown: No Systematic Errors in Climate Models, Comprehensive Statistical Analysis Reveals

Science Daily. February 2, 2015

Skeptics who still doubt anthropogenic climate change have now been stripped of one of their last-ditch arguments: It is true that there has been a warming hiatus and that the surface of Earth has warmed up much less rapidly since the turn of the millennium than all the relevant climate models had predicted. However, the gap between the calculated and measured warming is not due to systematic errors of the models, as the skeptics had suspected, but because there are always random fluctuations in Earth's climate. [\[Read More\]](#)

Cyclists Hit Waterloo Region Roads for 'Coldest Ride of the Year'

The Record. February 8, 2015

Feb. 7 is historically the coldest day of the year, according to University of Waterloo's weather station. But Saturday was milder than most years, with temperatures hovering between -2C and -6C. It was great news for a group of avid cyclists who ride on the coldest day of the year annually to promote winter cycling. They also explore the area's cycling infrastructure in winter weather. Only 10 cyclists came out for the annual "Coldest Ride of the Year" bike ride last year; when the region saw a high of -12C. But on Saturday nearly 20 people joined Mike Boos of Kitchener for the third annual ride as he cycled from uptown Waterloo to the Kitchener Farmer's Market. [\[Read More\]](#)

From the Blog

Untapped Sustainability Resources

By: Tarana Persaud

During December, Sustainable Waterloo Region held a bright and early seminar at the Waterloo Inn on Financial Incentives that are out there for businesses to take advantage of when trying to follow the sustainable and environmental friendly path. Guests were happy to be spoken to by 6 speakers from various sectors: Union Gas, SaveONenergy, REEP Solutions' RAIN Program, WET Program, University of Waterloo, and a PhD student who was a wealth of knowledge on Green Revolving Funds. [\[Read More\]](#)



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