



Student Environmental Community for Sustainability

ECO CONFERENCE INVITES STUDENTS

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There is no better time for the Green North Eco Conference and there is no better place.

The city of Thunder Bay, not unlike other large cities in The North, developed out of the demand for the natural resources that the region possessed. The city, however, has in recent years been in a transitory stage where the price of natural resources, especially lumber, has skyrocketed and as such the demand for those products has dwindled.

The transition that Thunder Bay is going through is not limited to The North in its scope. It is in fact part of a greater global economic transition towards sustainability and resource conservation. This has quite appropriately come to be called Green Capitalism, which is a major theme of the conference.

There is no doubt that if Thunder Bay and The North are to undergo an economic revival, it will be through adapting to the global economic forces, which will be a focus of the conference; and not through resisting them through stubborn maladaptive attitudes. The fallout of the economic recession in Thunder Bay has impacted many; the fallout of a global ecological recession will impact many more.

Few will question that the most powerful global economic force is the planetary system that supplies our basic needs: clean water, air, soil and hospitable climate. A decline in our planet's ecological system to supply these most necessary elements is incomparably greater than a decline in our market system that impacts our standard of living.

The behavior if these two systems do not have to be inversely correlated. This is a key message of the Green North Eco Conference. Our economic system that supplies each of our every wants does not have to infringe upon our ecological system that provides for all of our very needs.

The conference will feature notable speakers including Hunter Lovins, a major proponent of Natural Capitalism, as well as those from Architecture, Aerospace, Forestry, Banking, Energy, Government as well as NGOs.

The Green North Eco Conference takes place on March 18th and 19th and is open to all students who wish to take a leading role in Thunder Bay's, The North's and the World's Green future.