

Regional Action Plans from the
2008 PYC International Youth Day Event:
August 8-9th at the Wellesley Membership Centre

Region 1: Change

Individual

- Changes to my lifestyle and habits: turn off running water when washing dishes, brushing teeth, switching off lights, hanging clothes to dry, organic treats for pets and more outdoor activities
- 3Rs - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- Trying to purchase more locally

Workplace

- Reducing the printing of emails
- Recycle
- Develop a local union-management environmental committee
- Carpool

Union

- Endorse and use "videoconferencing" technology
- Promote the creation of greener buildings, maintenance and energy audits
- More education and research on the issue

Community

- Windsor "greenlink", use of green buses, participating in community recycling programs
- Talk to city counselors about composting program/green bins
- Non-use of pesticides, yard waste programs, limited water use
- Promoting local farmers' markets
- Education with younger children
- Community clean-ups

Region 2: Greenified

Individual

- Reduce meat intake
- Buy energy efficient lighting
- Collect rainwater for garden use

Workplace

- Support the buying and use of eco-friendly government vehicles
- Start a green committee
- Reduce lighting to 0.1 watt per square foot

Union

- Carpooling more often
- Encourage the union to support the bargaining of environmental language in collective agreements
- Maximize recycling, minimize waste

Community

- Lobby MPs and MPPs to support greener strategies
- Buy local
- Create regulations that support local-friendly buying and production for farmers, grocery etc.

Region 3: Educate and Advocate

Individual

- Instill good practices and habits in our children
- Educate yourself about green options
- Use composte and recycling to reduce waste
- Hang clothes instead of using the dryer

Workplace

- Set and monitor workplace goals (through a fun competition)
- Encourage the use of less packaging and environmentally friendly products
- Eliminate water bottles
- Propose greener options to management

Union

- Seek out more education and knowledge to educate others

Community

- Make demands of producers “we won’t buy your product”
- Educate our communities and neighbours
- Lead by example

Region 4: Give Me (Earth) Love

Individual

- Drive less, take more public transit, bike
- More participation in composting and recycling
- Buy local
- Work towards an anti-capitalist agenda
- Cultivate green purchasing power

Workplace

- Lobby for a proper recycling plan
- Lobby for more energy efficient policies and practices

Union

- Green stewards
- Lobby for greener workplace and lifestyle policies in collective agreements

Community

- Build more community gardens and greenspace
- Reduce garbage and waste
- Building through sharing knowledge, educating others

Region 5: Team work

Individual

- Bike all year around
- Bring lunch to work and eat at home more often (to reduce waste and packaging)
- Reduce air-conditioner use

Workplace

- Bargain carbon reduction into collective agreements
- Go paperless
- Support a "lights-out" policy at night
- Recycling

Union

- Create initiative and incentives for greening OPSEU more locally
- Nurture a culture of Electronic communication
- Remove paper, plastic cups from all regional offices

Community

- Lobby for more recycling within apartment and condo buildings (lobby through the Tenants' Association)
- Buy locally
- Form community action groups

Region 6 & 7: Initiate

Individual

- Buy more local foods
- Use Reusable bags for groceries, shopping etc.
- Compost and recycle as much as possible

Workplace

- Be more careful about turning off lights and unnecessary use of electricity
- Use energy efficient appliances
- Avoid printing emails, where possible
- Use dishes instead of paper plates and cups
- Increase the temperature by a degree or two for air conditioning and lower it for heating

Union

- Print out less paper for educational, eliminate the use of post-it notes
- Remind locals of environmentally friendly strategies and lobby for them

Community

- Build community and neighbourhood gardens, plant trees now
- Carpool as much as possible
- Create Clean up Days or "Trash to Treasure" days
- 3 Rs - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle