

Some Things We Can Do to Give Our Children a Future

Love our children

- Teach them to appreciate and nurture natural energy flows – soils, plants, forests, and streams.
- Teach them to grow food, to work with their hands and minds, to communicate, to be kind and confident, to sing and love.
- Teach them to build efficient solar dwellings, to be minimalists, and to understand that their wealth is in the photosynthesizing wild places surrounding their community.
- Teach them to sail, navigate, and explore
 - o To move away from trouble if it comes

Grow enough food locally to sustain our families and community

- Gardens everywhere - raised beds with good soil – cold frames to extend growing seasons
- Build Thermal Banking Greenhouses – every property with solar exposure should have one
- Plant Hazelnut bushes – they produce nuts in their third or fourth year
- Geneva and Slate are two blight-resistant varieties, and they cross-pollinate. Hazels bloom in early spring – they pollinate via wind - plant them close together - 6 to 8 feet in mounds of good soil – water well – they grow multiple stems to be six or seven meters tall
- Encourage other people to grow food

Facilitate community access to good quality polycarbonate

- Communicate with Sabic Canada to get a local not-for-profit dealership for Lexan Thermoclear polycarbonate. Thermoclear is the only polycarbonate with a 20-year warranty against yellowing (less than 4% in twenty years) – all other brands yellow about 10% in ten years.
- Greenhouses can be designed so that the polycarbonate can be removed and stored undercover during summer months, thus extending the life of the poly by forty to fifty years.
- The Americans are paying about \$2 US a square foot for 8mm twin wall Thermoclear. When I priced it locally, the price was \$8 CA. With a local not-for-profit dealership, we should be able to sell at around \$4.20 a square foot and still cover costs.

Collect and store rainwater – April through September. Some roofs leach tar – the water from these roofs is not suitable for gardening or food trees.

Transition to solar, wind, and hydropower

Transition to super-efficient dwellings for wintertime habitation and shelter

Transition to efficient heating systems

- Thermal banking (heat-storing, thermal mass) greenhouses attached to dwellings
- High temperature, total combustion, heat-storing, thermal mass heaters – more heat, less fuel

Follow the development of Don Sadoway's Liquid Metal Battery. His batteries are made with common earth elements, designed for community grid systems, don't degrade over time or cycling, and fully enable wind and solar. We should be preparing for the time when we have little or no gasoline, and no electricity from the coal/wood chip fired power grid. Explore the possibilities of acquiring liquid metal batteries for sustaining the local community grid. If these batteries are community-owned, we will see a burst of invention and innovation - communities can strive for efficiency in power generation and distribution. If a province-wide power company owns the batteries, there will be less incentive for innovation and efficiency – their focus is on protecting corporate structures and profits.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRpQL1vFWLg>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Czgu7ASc_vE

Prepare for the devolution of administrative services and government. Families in local communities need to work together to sustain culture and civilization.

Inform and empower people to strengthen community democracy.

[Protect forests and their carbon sequestering, climate stabilizing energy flows.](#)

Think strategically – emulate nature, and the divine

- plant food trees and shrubs in forests – work with forests to restore their biological potential
- engender goodwill and respect for each other – respect children and they respect you
- goodwill generates goodwill
- goodwill generates community wellbeing and strengthens community economic multipliers
- goodwill is a powerful form of wealth
- goodwill strengthens democracy
- goodwill is efficient economically, ecologically, and scientifically
- goodwill is good for the heart, good for the mind, and good for the spirit

Empower people and communities to govern themselves, pursue ecological forestry, generate and store electricity, reduce administrative layers, explore and innovate, and strive for economic and ecological efficiency.