

Going green is easier than you think

A local Frederictonian is doing his part by spreading the message about global warming.

by Mitchell Bernard

The City of Fredericton is already doing its part in sustaining the environment. The Green Matters campaign is helping the city attempt to reach Kyoto targets by 2010.

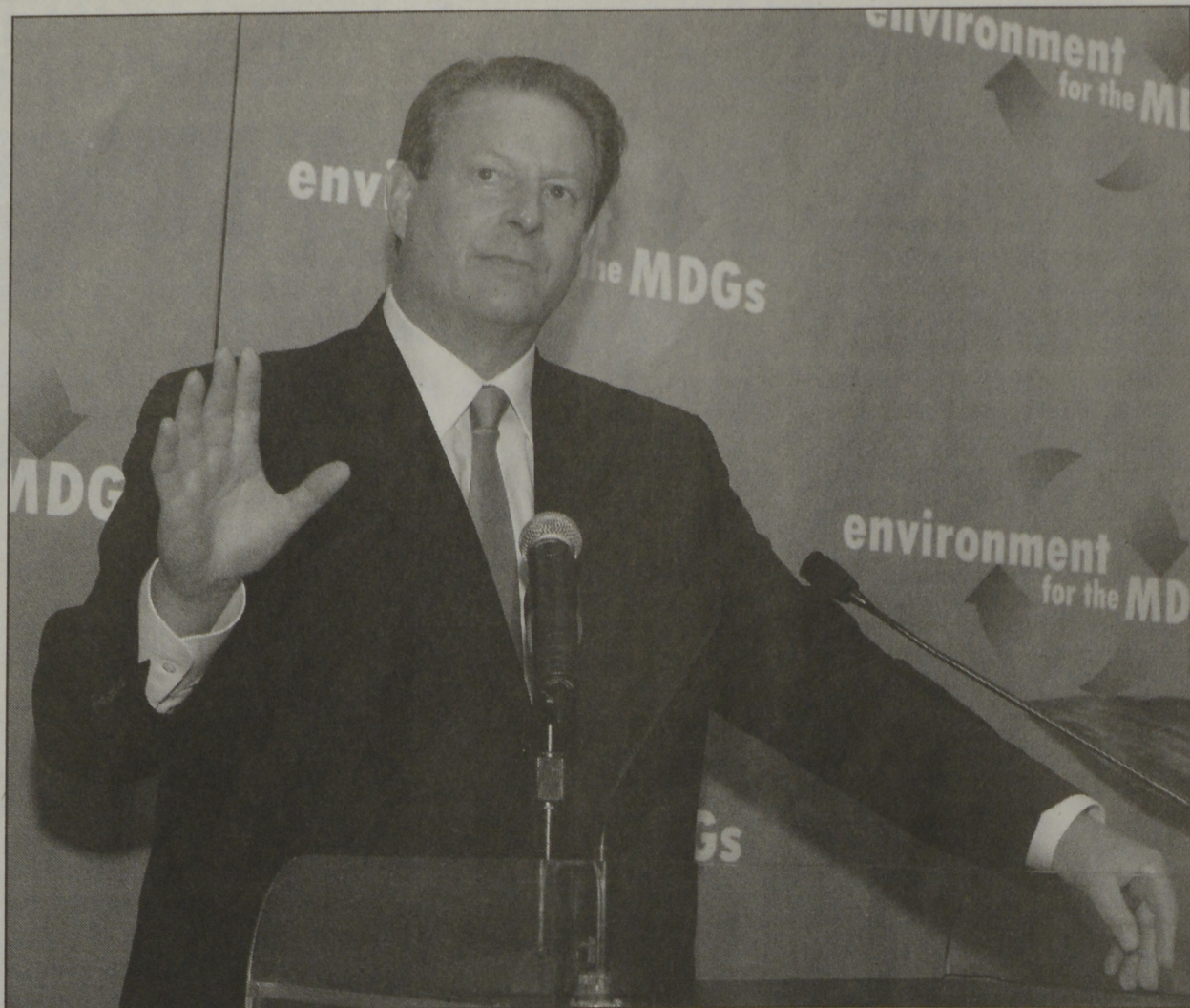
Carl Duivenvoorden of Fredericton is doing all he can to help the cause. The father of two sons took a one-year leave of absence from his job at Efficiency New Brunswick to spread the concern of global warming.

Trained in Nashville, Tennessee, at a three-day seminar hosted by Al Gore, Duivenvoorden is traveling to deliver Gore's global warming message.

Duivenvoorden said although the City of Fredericton, as a corporation, is doing all that it can to reach Kyoto targets, the citizens can do more to help Fredericton reach its goal.

"The next big step for every citizen to feel a part of the campaign is for every citizen to do things like retro fit their homes to make them as energy-efficient as possible. To consider their vehicle and make it the most fuel-efficient vehicle it can be," said Duivenvoorden. "I think it comes down to, in a large measure, citizens need to take action on their own part. Fredericton is doing pretty much everything it can on a corporate plane to do its part. But we as individuals have a huge role."

Duivenvoorden is one of two Atlantic Canadian trainees from the Nashville seminars elected to spread the global warming message. He, along with fellow Fredericton resi-



Al Gore's message of global warming has been heard from his many speeches as well as his movie, "An Inconvenient Truth". Carl Duivenvoorden from Fredericton is travelling to spread Gore's message.

dent Peter Corbyn, has committed to do at least ten presentations over the span of a year, but Duivenvoorden feels he can do better. He has set a personal goal to do 100 presentations. A goal, which he feels, is attainable.

could do was to take a year off from work and spread the message about climate change to as many audiences as possible.

What can people expect from the trained speaker? Duivenvoorden will attempt to show the audience ways

information. What they can expect, which they wouldn't have seen in Al Gore's presentation, is a bit of updated information. There is some new information that has come to light since [the making of the film]. There is some very New Brunswick-

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- CARL DUIVENVOORDEN.

"As a father, when this opportunity came up to go to Nashville, I thought it was the best thing I could do for my boys. I came to the conclusion that the best thing I

in which they can do their part in reducing our carbon footprint.

"If they have seen 'An Inconvenient Truth,' they will recognize a lot of the graphics and a lot of the

specific information and a big piece on solution. It's not my objective to get everyone down about this whole thing, but instead to empower people to know that each of us as an indi-

vidual has a role to play in this."

Duivenvoorden felt a need for change in the world after reading Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth*. He believes the book does a great job at pinpointing the key factors of global warming in a comprehensible manner.

"I was always concerned about climate change," said Duivenvoorden.

He now takes his concern to a higher level in teaching others way in which we can sustain our environment.

"I use the example in my presentations that one of the earliest things I learned was that you don't keep a car running in a garage because you will poison yourself. I carry that to a larger analogy on to the larger garage that is our planet's environment. It strikes me as naive for us to think that we can use our environment as we've been using it without expecting some sort of consequence. I've felt that way for a long time."

Duivenvoorden believes that his message is an important issue for matters in the present and the future.

"It's the issue of the future. I'm personally convinced that future generations will have the environment as their number one issue and challenge. Because, in the end, the environment supercedes everything else. We depend on the environment for every breath of air, every sip of water, and every bite of food. They come to us from the environment around us, and from the natural resources. But it is so easy for us to take it for granted. It's just the way that we have evolved," said Duivenvoorden.

Duivenvoorden will be speaking at the Unitarian Fellowship on 874 York St, January 7 at 7pm. If you can't make this week's presentation, Duivenvoorden will be on the UNB campus, at Dineen Auditorium, February 25, at 6:30pm.

To find out more about Duivenvoorden's keynotes and seminars, visit his website at www.changeyourcorner.com.

Loonie high; adds up

by Joanna Bhaskaran
The Manitoban
(University of Manitoba)

WINNIPEG (CUP) -- Many international students came to study in Canada because of the relatively low cost. But the value of the Canadian dollar reached an all-time high of USD\$1.10 on November 7, 2007. As of press time, USD\$1 was equivalent to CDN\$0.99334.

"Before this happened I would get around the same amount they sent plus a little bit more in Canadian dollars," said Bisong Taiwo, a student at the University of Manitoba. "Now every time I make a transfer [in USD] I end up losing around \$50-\$70. It's not much but it adds up and that's the cost of a good two nights out or maybe a textbook!"

Tony Rogge, director of that university's International Students' Centre, said the fluctuating dollar has been a concern for years.

"Canada, with its high quality of education, has attracted a high percentage of international students. Some of these students are very well-to-do and some are government subsidized and [the increase] probably hasn't affected them at all.

"On the other hand... the rapid appreciation of the Canadian dollar has definitely hit their pockets... It is obvious that currency fluctuations are something that needs to be taken into account."

Rogge predicted that rural areas where the dollar has more purchasing power, especially as regards rental rates and services, will become more popular among international students if the current trends continue.

"For many countries the value of their currency compared to the Canadian dollar is great and because of the high purchasing power in Manitoba, it eats away the difference," Rogge said.

To obtain a student visa, prospective students are required to show that they have sufficient funds to stay and live in Canada. In 2006, there were 156,955 students from abroad studying in Canada.

UNB International Development Week is here

by Melanie Bell

"It's never good for policy to be passed apathetically," says Emily Brown, a student employee of UNB's International Relations Office. "People should be aware."

Awareness of issues affecting the 'majority world' is exactly what Brown hopes will result from the IRO's 18th Annual International Development Week. Held from February 3-9, the week will feature a series of lectures and discussions with the aim of encouraging critical thinking about the role and

responsibilities of Canadians in international development. The mandate of the IRO is to promote, support, and coordinate all facets of internationalization on the UNBF campus.

The event takes place during the Canadian International Development Agency's 18th International Development Week, when campuses nationwide will turn their attention to issues of development abroad through similarly themed events. CIDA's theme this year is "For a Better World." Events are sponsored by UNB's International Relations Office, in collaboration with the Gregg Centre for the Study of War and Society, and Engineers Without Borders.

Gunaseelan Kulasegaram, the head of UNB's International Development

Department, speaks to the importance of collaboration in terms of global development.

"Community, regional, and national self-interest undermine cooperation. But why should we stop at the national level? Why not take it to the next level and have global self-interest?" While people in the western world feel disconnected from issues that take place far from their own backyards, a long-term connection exists. "It's in your best self-interest that the 80% of the world that lies in developing countries do well because our futures depend on their survival." Some, however, think differently, arguing that North Americans should focus first on effectively managing their own development. International Development

Week will feature and encourage both perspectives. "If people have questions about the importance or appropriateness of international development, this is a time when they can bring them up," says Brown. "We promote going more in depth with [examining the work that Canada is doing overseas] and discussing the pros and cons of international development. One of the key things we're looking for is that a discourse happens, so the format of our activities is highly participatory."

The activities kicked off yesterday, February 5, with a panel presentation focused on "The West's Influence on the Rest's Education." Ken Keirstead from Group Lyceum, Patricia Ellsworth from Friends of Zambia, and Katy Haralampides from UNB's Department of Civil Engineering will lead a discourse centered on the positive and negative results of Western attempts to improve the world through education.

On Wednesday, February 6, the public is invited to "Meet an Overseas Volunteer - Overseas." Participants will be involved in a video conference with Jenn Dysart, Co-Founder of the UNB chapter of Engineers Without Borders who is spending a third year overseas in a long-term EWB volunteer placement. Dysart is living in Monze, Zambia, from where she will be joining us live. This discussion provides a unique opportunity to learn from someone in the middle of work abroad. It will be held at 7pm in Head Hall, room C10.

The final panel presentation on February 7 will discuss "Development in Conflict Zones," with an emphasis on the Canadian mission in Afghanistan. Panelists will include Diane Youdell, the Special Advisor to the Director General of the Afghanistan Task Force, and Major Sean Courty, a representative from Base Gagetown who headed reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan as PRT's Head of Civil Affairs in 2007. Complementing the experiential contributions of Youdell and Courty will be Rick McDaniels, Director of YMCA Fredericton International, who will provide a more theoretical perspective on development. The discussion will be moderated by Lee Windsor from UNB's Gregg Centre for the Study of War and Society, who also has experience with development in Afghanistan. This discussion will take place at 7pm in the McLaggan Auditorium, room 105.

Boeing announces Atlantic Canada research funding

by Katie Hyslop
The Muse
(Memorial University of Newfoundland)

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) -- The Boeing Company has announced a \$52M investment into Atlantic Canadian corporations and institutions, including a new autonomous systems laboratory at Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Boeing, an aerospace and defence company, will provide \$750,000 over five years to fund an autonomous systems laboratory for MUN's engineering faculty to conduct research for underwater, mining and aerial robots.

"MUN has got quite a bit of expertise that relates generally to the technologies that are needed for these kinds of machines to work, and Boeing is interested in supporting this and also continuing our research," said Ray Gosine, Dean of Engineering.

The investment comes as part of Boeing's obligations under the Canadian Industrial Benefits Policy, which requires Boeing to invest in Canadian corporations and institutions an amount of money equal to the cost of the four C-17 Globemaster III airplanes that Canada purchased from Boeing in 2007.

The four planes, of which two are already in service, cost the federal government just under \$800M, but they also purchased a 20-year service package from the company, which cost another \$750M. Canada signed a separate agreement with Pratt and Whitney for plane engines, as Boeing does not manufacture them.

"We received a credit against our industrial benefits obligation for the investment we've made with the University. But in second Boeing has a history worldwide of co-operating with universities worldwide to develop centres of excellence or centres of specialization to help students acquire the skills that might help

Boeing and the aerospace industry in general," said Damien Mills, manager of international communications for Integrated Defence Systems at Boeing.

Though Boeing is particularly interested in MUN's research into unmanned aerial robotics, Gosine says that the funding will supply technology for research into an overarching field of robotics.

"The work that we're doing is fairly fundamental, it's looking at how robots and humans, and robots and robots, can work together," said Gosine, who added that the money from Boeing could support research for seven or eight more graduate students in the lab, in addition to the 10 to 12 currently working there.

"In our case its largely harsh environment in focus - we're trying to look at underwater vehicles in the off-shore here, we're looking at operating in our environment and challenges that our environment brings."

The money from Boeing is just the beginning for the autonomous systems lab, says Gosine. He says the commitment from Boeing has put MUN in a good position to gain leverage funding from other sources, such as the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC).

"For example, you take \$50,000 of the Boeing money and go to NSERC for a program that might be \$300,000-\$400,000. Now that requires a proposal... and it requires a fair amount of time to develop until you get to a stage of submitting it. But we are able to submit it now on the strength of the commitment that we have from Boeing," said Gosine.

Boeing isn't just investing in Atlantic Canada: \$420M will go to Quebec, \$166M will go to Ontario, and \$157M will go to the western provinces.

Thus far Boeing has only announced part of their investments in Canada, with plans to announce the rest in the next three years. Though they will be looking into other corporations and institutions in Atlantic Canada, Mills says it is possible that Boeing will choose to reinvest in some.

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