

PENDER COMMUNITY TRANSITION (PCT)

*** a cooperative alliance for a brighter future ***

So there was a power failure, setting up a dark gym with headlamps, multiple competing events, and finally an evacuation! Despite all this, Pender's first ENERGY ACTION DAY on November 12 was very well-attended and went amazingly well. About 150 Penderites and kids came through, and I'm sure the Kikuchi's deliciously-sustainable food was part of why a bunch of them stuck around for a while.

After guest speakers about do-it-yourself energy conservation projects, home energy evaluations, and solar water heating options, Guy Dauncey blew our minds with compelling roadmaps to a more sustainable and resilient future. Just as Guy had completed the main part of his talk and showed how we need to "sound the alarm" and change how we live, the fire alarm did in fact go off, so the conversation had to continue outside in the rain. This was while the fire trucks rolled up and eventually verified a sprinkler electricity malfunction. Now Guy Dauncey has suggested using Skype for additional ideas specifically about our island, so stay tuned for when Pender Community Transition might arrange this.

My favourite part of the Energy Action Day was the kids playing their way through the "energy question stations", inspiring us with their visionary alternative energy pictures, and watching with big eyes as the grown-up energy "keeners" demonstrated their cool gizmos. Thanks so much to all the people and groups who helped and participated, and to the Pender LTC's, Eco-Homes Network, CRD, and Vancity for helping fund this event! As a follow-up, we're having a SOLAR WATER HEATING INFO MEETING on November 22 (go to Current Events at www.pendercommunitytransition.ca to see what's up).

Remember too that community transition is about more than energy. There's also food growing, economic relocalization, alternative transportation, reducing waste, protecting biodiversity, building community spirit and wellbeing – various key ways that our communities can become more resilient, self-sufficient, and Earth-friendly! (see the rest of this website for more)