

Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision and Strategy | 2008-2058

A community oriented strategy with a focus on preserving and enhancing the unique, culture, charm, and environment of the Dundas Valley area.

Enhancing the Economic Sustainability and Vibrancy of Dundas Valley Communities

Goal: Promote the natural assets of the Valley to the neighbouring business communities



King Street, Dundas at Night

Strategic Direction

- **Promote green business practices within the community**

This strategic direction promotes green and sustainable business operation and efforts, local consumerism for its economic benefits, and links to emerging technologies and programs that make sustainability increasingly possible, and with increasing effectiveness.

“Production of wind and solar energy is soaring and further technological breakthroughs are on the horizon. Sales of local and organic food are blossoming. Sales of highly efficient hybrid vehicles are racing. All of these environmentally friendly options are growing at far faster rates than their conventional counterparts.” - David Suzuki

Summary

Being a green business involves the adoption and promotion of green business practices and entails principles of working smarter, reducing travel and consumption, energy efficiency and sustainable sourcing of inputs. Green business practices can range from actions such as recycling, education, teleconferencing, and energy conservation; to adopting renewable forms of energy, physical renovations (green roofs, grey water usage) energy efficient product manufacturing, and performing a business-wide sustainability inventory or audit.



Solar panels and wind-turbines are examples of alternative energy production.

Green business practices should be encouraged, not only with respect to cost savings and bottom-line improvements, but also with respect to the local community, and environmental responsibility. Within the Dundas Valley area there is potential for greater promotion of environmentally-friendly practices among the community, starting with local businesses. Business leadership in natural resource management and stewardship should be highlighted and celebrated where possible as good examples to other businesses and the community. Where possible the community, and consumers should be encouraged to shop local, and recognize the efforts of local green businesses with preferential consumerism.



Many of Dundas' businesses are environmentally conscious, and are open for local business opportunities

Actions

- **Promote environmentally friendly behavior (e.g. reusing and recycling, energy conservation, anti-idling, etc.)**
- **Celebrate and recognize business leadership in natural resource/green business stewardship**
- **Establish good contact between the Hamilton Conservation Authority and Business Improvement Areas**
- **Encourage residents to shop locally rather than at 'big-box-stores'**
- **Encourage development to utilize alternative power supplies (e.g. wind,solar)**
- **Encourage green development**
- **Encourage climate change awareness for business and residents in the Valley area**

For the Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision and Strategy to be realized and its actions fulfilled the community needs to take on a leadership role. Below and on the back page are a few links, of established resources and organizations currently working on, or with the potential to work on, the fulfilment of these actions, and the realization of the Dundas Valley 50-Year Vision and Strategy's strategic direction of promoting green business practices within the community.

Notes

Resources



Resources



The Ancaster and The Dundas Downtown Business Improvement Areas;

www.ancasterheritagevillage.com and www.downtowndundas.ca

Organizations dedicated to the promotion of local commerce, and to the celebration of community orientated events.

Hamilton Chamber of Commerce (Dundas and Ancaster Divisions);

www.hamiltonchamber.ca

Hamilton's oldest institution, dedicated to contributing to the successes of business and the community.

Sustainable Hamilton Burlington; www.sustainablehamiltonburlington.ca

A non-profit social enterprise dedicated to inspiring sustainability leadership in our business organizations for a healthier environment and thriving, prosperous communities.

Green Venture; www.greenventure.ca

Active in balancing environmental, social and economic needs for the promotion of balanced sustainable communities.

Sustainable Professionals Network; www.hamiltonspn.com

A group of professionals dedicated to building a more sustainable future for the Hamilton community.

Ontario Ministry of Energy; www.energy.gov.on.ca/en/incentives-program-for-business

Offering businesses of all sizes incentives to increase efficiency and conservation efforts through their operations.

Ontario Power Authority; www.powerauthority.on.ca

Offering programs and education surrounding sustainable emerging provision and increased energy efficiency and conservation.

Horizon Utilities (Conservation); www.horizonutilities.com/conservation

Offering incentives, and efficiency programs for home owners and businesses.

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Possibility grows here.