

GOOD WORK NEWS

The Working Centre, 58 Queen St. S. Kitchener, ON N2G 1V6

Issue 97

June 2009

Subscription: A Donation Towards our Work

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Downside Up, A New Movie From the Multicultural Cinema Club

Downside Up, the third documentary produced by MCC and directed by Azam Fouk Aladeh, explores the causes and consequences of youth homelessness in Kitchener, Ontario. This documentary looks at the human side of life on the streets, at love lost and found, at friendships forged, and at a community that, despite hardships, sticks together through thick and thin. It presents profound insights into the lives of the youth, their struggles with mainstream society, and their recommendations for social change. These are voices that need to be heard and understood if we are to become a truly integrated community.

Outdoor Premiere of *Downside Up*

Kitchener City Hall Square
July 15th at 8:30pm

Downside Up DVDs

On sale at
Queen Street Commons Café
(43 Queen St. S.)
\$15.00



Memorial

By Leslie Morgenson

After Martin Tarback died, someone said to me, "if only we had known about his illness we could have tried harder to reach out to him." And maybe too abruptly I answered that when we see someone sitting in a doorway, someone asking for money, day after day, year after year, we can assume they are immobilized by an illness, either physical, mental or both. We shouldn't have to be told. And as an individualist society we are so far removed from the idea of interconnectedness that we view the world from our personal perspective, and therefore feel that if someone is behaving out of the norm, it is an affront to us.

As we memorialized Martin with words about community, looking beyond appearances and connecting with people, there sat among the assembly of 300, a row of people who knew Martin from the street. During the two hour tribute they got a little rowdy at times, uninhibited with their words, overwhelmed as they were to lose yet another friend from the street. One of them spoke to the crowd of the brotherhood on

the street. They knew Martin well. And yet there were some in the throng who wanted them quieted, removed right there in the midst of promises to reach out to other "Martins", not recognizing that essentially, there sat Martin. For the downtown population, public space is also personal space and thus one's comportment is often on display.



As we heard from a long list of people, from nurses at Freeport Hospital to the Crown Attorney, reaching out to Martin meant meeting him on his terms and changing our own stubbornly held notions.

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Unemployment at 10% in Waterloo Region

By Joe Mancini

Over the last five years, Waterloo Region has had a remarkably low unemployment rate. If reading StatsCan unemployment figures was all it takes to understand the labour market, then it would seem that the labour market serves Waterloo Region workers well. Unfortunately statistics fail to capture the efforts and discouragement of the reserve labour force. Statistics do not reflect the work that temporary, part time and unemployed workers do to pay rent and feed their family.

Low unemployment rates have

masked the reality of a labour market that functioned through workers marginally attached to the labour market. These individuals tenuously hold on to non-permanent jobs that are in constant danger of evaporating.

- Consider these three points,
- 26 percent of the Ontario labour market is either unemployed or working in temporary and part time jobs and this number is clearly underestimated.
 - In the last five years over 11,000 manufacturing jobs in Waterloo Region have been lost.

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Twenty-Fifth Year

Issue 97

June 2009

Good Work News

Good Work News was first produced in September 1984. It is published four times a year by The Working Centre and St. John's Kitchen as a forum of opinions and ideas on work and unemployment. There is a circulation of 9,500 copies. Subscription: a donation towards our work.

Editors: Joe Mancini, Stephanie Mancini, Jennifer Mains, John R. Smith

Contributors: Joe Johnson, Rebecca Mancini, Dave Thomas, Leslie Morgenson, Azam Fouk Aladeh, John Vanderzand, Jesse Robertson, Ken Westhues, Jim Lotz.

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Twenty-Second Annual Mayors' Dinner

By Dave Thomas

Imagine an intimate, hospitable get-together – that's how the 22nd Annual Mayors' Dinner turned out, even with more than 780 people gathered in the vast expanse of Marshall Hall at Bingemans! The convivial atmosphere was reflected in the capacity crowd gathered to pay tribute to the Guests of Honour, ardent sport boosters John and Donna Weber.

The couple were fêted for their decades-long contributions to amateur sports, from managing teams to feeding hundreds of tournament participants. For the Webers, supporting team sports is just as important as the strong bonds of family, friends and community that were clearly evident at the annual fundraiser.

This year's event, held April 4, raised more than \$58,000 to support the work of The Working Centre and St. John's Kitchen. A good chunk of that total came from one live auction item – an opportunity to have dinner with John and Donna at their home! Three couples got to enjoy a multicourse meal (specially prepared by Donna) that featured such delicacies as an asparagus proscutto wrap appetizer, Madeira and mushroom stuffed tenderloin, and a white chocolate peanut cranberry bark dessert.

Thank you to all who make the Mayors' Dinner successful

Special thanks to Mayor Carl Zehr, Mayor Brenda Halloran, Lorna Van Mossel, Arleen Macpherson, Roman Dubinski, Neil Aitchison, Lawrence Bingeman, Fred Walker, Dominic Cardillo, Margaret Motz, Joyce Stankiewicz, Murray Haase, Don Allen, the individuals and businesses who contributed to the auction, and many others.

Thank you to our generous Patrons

Bell, Church of St. John the Evangelist, Erb and Good Funeral Home, Ahmet Jakupi, Kitchener

Dodgers, Kitchener Hockey, MacNaughton Hersmen Britton Clarkson Planning Limited, RDM Corporation, Bob and Judy Shantz, and Strassburger Windows and Doors.

Thank you to our Community Tables

144 Park Limited, Athlete of the Year Program, Bingemans, Civitan Sports - Waterloo Region, Jim & Sue Hallman, Inter County Baseball, Kitchener Downtown Business Association, Kitchener Fastball Promotions, Kitchener Public Library Board Trustees, Kitchener Sports Association, Margaret Motz, MTE Consultants Inc., Margaret & Bob Nally, RBJ Schlegel Holdings, Region of Waterloo, Susan & Marvin Rempel, St. Jacob's Country Inn, Superior Memorials, Township of Woolwich, Waterloo Catholic District School Board, Waterloo County Hall of Fame, Waterloo Regional Police Association, John & Donna Weber, and Waterloo Region Immigrant Employment Network.

Thank you to our Mayors' Dinner Contributors

Bob & Terry Ballantyne, Joyce Bell, BLT Farms Inc., Brava Tex, Peter Braid, M.P., J. Howard Butler, Dom & Mary Cardillo, Century Group Financial Solutions, Coldwell Banker Peter Benninger Realty, Estelle Enns, Erb & Erb Insurance, Pat & Noreen Flynn, Ray Gabel, Gerry & Carol Gerber, Michael Graham & Hulene Montgomery, Grand River Valley Newspapers, Cathy Gravelle & Peter Ciuciura, Carl & Eleanor Kaufman, John Kokko & Sue Anderson, Theron & Joy Kramer, Anne Miller, Ken & Marilyn Murray, Richard & Karen Neil, Frank & Cleo O' Malley, Carol Oner, Quarry Integrated Communications, Ratz Bechtel Funeral Home, The Record, Audrey Reitzel, Snyder Metal Fabricating, Joyce & Bill Stankiewicz, Bryan & Joan Stewart, Vikki & James Tait, Edmund & Mary Jac Tell, Tristram Realty Associates Inc. Brokerage, United Way of Kitchener Waterloo & Area, Kirsten Van Drunen & Peter Shirk.

See MCC video of 2009 Mayors' Dinner at www.kwmcc.org.

Please join us for the



In support of The Working Centre and St. John's Kitchen

*Wednesday, August 26th, 2009
 at Foxwood Country Club*

\$135 per Golfer plus a \$15 Golf Bonus Package

*To reserve your spot,
 call Kara at (519) 743-1151 x.119*

Sponsored by:



In 2008, Recycle Cycles moved a total of 3,253 bikes through the shop. This included 2,114 bikes brought in for repairs and 655 recycled bikes sold. Volunteers contributed over 5,000 hours of labour to Recycle Cycles.



**43 Queen Street South (Second Floor)
 Downtown Kitchener**

For more information or to book a bicycle repair time, call 519-749-9177 ext. 222 or e-mail recyclecycles@theworkingcentre.org

Shop Hours:
 Tuesday - Friday: 10am - 5pm
 Saturday: 10am - 2pm



Thank You to Our Most Generous Donors!

The following individuals, businesses, and groups have made exceptional contributions in support of The Working Centre.

Carmeta Abbott, ACE Bakery, Stephen & Vera Aldersley, Sherrie Bangs, Bell Canada, Blenheim Ecumenical House Church, Blessed Sacrament Parish, Paul Born & Marlene Epp, Vernon Bowman, Canadahelps.org, Church of the Holy Saviour, Coleman Equipment Inc., Congregation of the Resurrection, Andrew Copp, David De Weerd, Faith Lutheran Church, Stephen & Christine Filipowicz, First Christian Reformed Church, William J. Fox, Knights of Columbus, Ronald Green, Walter Hachborn, Dorothy Hallman, Tom & Kathy Hallman, HBC Foundation (D. Gordon), Pamela Hilton, Carol Holup, Malkin Howes, ITW Foundation, Susan & Terry Johnson, Helmut Kassik, Greg Klymko, Robert Kruse, K-W Community Foundation, K-W Naval Association, Lear Canada, Brenda & Gary Leis, Jack & Daphne Lucas, Ronald & Vicki Macdonald, Dr. Catherine Mancini, Rebecca Mancini, Manulife Financial, David & Bonnie Martin, David & Nancy Matthews, The May Court Club Of K-W, Mersynergy Charitable Foundation, Peter Morris, Margaret Motz, Nicholson & Cates Ltd., John Oudyk & Sandra Mooibroek, Marc Plumb, Don & Karen Reist, Rockway Mennonite Church, Rotary Club Of Kitchener-Grand River, Marguerite Rueb, Jason Schattman, School Sisters Of Notre Dame, Mitsuru Shimpou, John Shortreed, Christopher Springer, St. Andrews Presbyterian, St. George's of Forest Hill, St. Jacobs Printery, St. Mary's High School S.A.C., St. Peters Evangelical Lutheran Church, Stirling Ave. Mennonite Church, Strategic Charitable, Iva R., Taves, United Way, Robert Veitch, John & Patricia Wainwright, Waterloo Christian Reformed, James & Brenda Welch, and Ken Westhues.

2009 Coin Drive

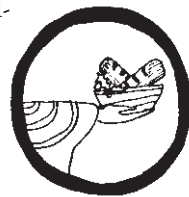
This year's coin can drive was a great success, raising \$7,056.48, thanks to the efforts of these generous local churches, schools, and individuals: Blessed Sacrament Church, Blessed Sacrament School, Christ the King United Church, Emmanuel United Church, First Mennonite Church, Holy Trinity, Kitchener East Presbyterian, Olivet Church, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, St. Daniel's, St. Dominic's School, St. Jerome's University, St. John's School, St. Louis' Church, St. Mark's, St. Matthew's School, St. Patrick's School, St. Steven's Lutheran Church, and WK United Mennonite Church.

Your Generosity is Very Much Appreciated

The Working Centre and St. John's Kitchen are grateful for the many contributions we receive from individuals, businesses, churches, schools, groups, and organizations. It is with deep gratitude that we thank those who make significant contributions to our work. We recognize in doing so that we leave out many who contribute in so many important ways to our work.

Aardvark-Vanaheim Inc., All Saints Anglican Church, Waltraud Anton, Arts Student Union - U of W, Dr. Neil Arya, Julia Beddoe, Dr. Bergthor Bergman, Raymond Beskau, Bingeman's, Bloomingdale United Church, Kieran & Margaret Bonner, Brava Tex, Breckles Insurance Brokers Inc., Brian Doell Medicine, Bridgeport Lions Club, Kathryn Brubacher, Brent & Janna Burkhardt, Ilene Burkhardt, C.A.W. Head Office, C.A.W. Local 1106, Marian Campbell, Catholic Health Association, Mel Cescon & Donna Ward, Joseph Chen, J. Chin, Christie Digital, City Of Kitchener, Community & World Service, Ovila Coupal, Donald Cowan, Jim Crawford, Crosby Volkswagen Inc., Dalsa Social Club, Kenneth R. Davidson, Mr. & Mrs. Steve Dosman, J. Douglas & Muriel I. Coleman, Roman Dubinski, Martin Edmonds &

Janet McPharlin, Paul & Heather Ellingham, Erb & Good Family Funeral Home, The Estate Of Virginia Frank, First Church of Christ the Scientist, First Mennonite Church, Christa Fischer, Patrick & Noreen Flynn, Frank Cowan Foundation, Steven Furino & Sabine Behnk, Ray Gabel, Esther E. Gascho, Don & Elinor Gingerich, Andrew Glen, Mary Granskou, Charles Greb, Dr. Marvin Gretzinger, Valerie & David Grzesiak, Jean Haalboom, Iris Hall, Stephen Halmo, Welf & Margaret Heick, Anna Hemmendinger, HGR Mechanical, Rosemary Hornyak, Fr. Peter Hundt, Mary Jackson, Ahmet Jakupi, M. Esme Johnson, Merlin Jutzi, Randy Kanat, Cecil & Doris Kavanaugh, Rev. & Mrs. Dieter Kays, Richard Kennel, Kathleen Kett, Kayli Kinnear, Kitchener Hockey Association, Kitchener Junior Baseball Association, Kitchener Public Library, Jacobus & Pauline Kok, Clifford Konrad, K-W Council Of Churches, K-W Region Elks Lodge #578, K-W Symphony, Jessica Kwik, Sally Lerner, Rita Levato & John Villemaire, Linda Lingard, Jim Lotz, Katherine MacIsaac, MacNaughton Hermsen Britton Clark-



son Planning Ltd., Lois Magee, Christina Mancini, Connie Mayor, Mary-Louise Mcallister, Fr. Murray McDermott, Juanita Metzger, Frank & Elsie Millerd, David & Alexandra Milne, MTE Consultants Inc., Mr. & Mrs. K. G. Murray, James Nagle, Robert & Margaret Nally, Lucinda Neuru, OECTA - Waterloo, Nancy Lou & Palmer Patterson, Ivan & Carol Persi, Pretium Engineering Ltd., RBJ Schlegel Holdings Inc., Region of Waterloo, Ruth Ristau, River of Life Fellowship, Daniel Rockel, Saturn Saab Kitchener-Waterloo, Jim Sauder, Cynthia & Peter Schaefer, Mr. & Mrs. John Scheele, Schiedel Construction, Lois Schmitt, Murry Schmitt, Scott Street Mennonite Brethren Church, Harold Seegmiller, Septimatech, Robert & Judy Shantz, Sisters of Providence S.V.P., Lorraine Snyder, Social Awareness - Diocese of Hamilton, St. Agatha Church, St. Agatha Religious House, St. Aloysius Parish, St. Anthony Daniel Parish, St. Columba Anglican Church, St. Francis C.W.L., St. Michaels Church, St. Peters Lutheran Church, John & Paula Stem, Strassburger Supplies Ltd., Mike & Carolyn Strathdee, Jan Stroh, Kae Sweeney, Edmond & Mary Jae Tell, E. B. Vallis, The Village of Winston Park, Waterloo Lions Club, John & Donna Weber, Nelson Weber, Bill & Marnie Wharnsby, Herbert & Barbara Whitney, Lewis & Julie Winger, W-K United Mennonite Church, and J. Clifton Young.

Not on the list? This list recognizes larger donations made, and other choose to be anonymous, but we also recognize that many contribute what they can, including many gifts of time.



The Working Centre's Volunteer Dinner

Every month at The Working Centre over 300 volunteers are involved in diverse projects from reception and hosting, sewing, computer repair, film making, bike repair, cooking, staffing the café and thrift store, serving and cleaning at St. John's Kitchen. On June 2nd, 160 volunteers gathered at St. John's Kitchen for our yearly volunteer dinner. Maurita's Kitchen prepared the Antipasto, Caesar Salad, Lasagna and Black Forest Cake in thanks for all the efforts volunteers make to build our community.

Thank You to The Working Centre's Board of Directors

President: Gordon Crosby
Secretary: Margaret Motz
Treasurer: Roman Dubinski
Vice President: Ken Westhues
Directors: Dennis Eaton
Mitsuru Shimpou
Arleen Macpherson

The Working Centre has been well served by its Board of Directors. Since 1988, the Board has fluctuated between 7-10 members. Many Board members have offered valuable long-term commitments and stability. The Board's main role is keeper of the Working Centre vision. This is accomplished through taking an active role in Working Centre projects, extensive discussion and debate on Working Centre priorities, full analysis of issues and constant monitoring of financial statements. We are grateful for this important community service.



St. John's Kitchen

Memorial

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Attempting to offer any assistance to him in these past few years was like trying to catch the wind. Martin had his own agenda. An agenda that had to be respected. But when he got sick, the path opened, and Martin was willing to let others in. And through this act of grace on his part people settled into his circle of care with tender hearts and mother bear protectiveness. As we entered this little window that he opened we were invited to witness his gifts, his gentle soul, and his will to live in the face of certain death.

But there have been people in our community who have also been willing to depart from their own standards to draw Martin in, to accept him on his terms. Often it was storekeepers who had some food to offer, or who kept a can opener behind the counter for Martin's use, his lawyer, who brought Martin a guitar, and cab drivers who gave him free rides. And then there was the staff at Freeport hospital, who welcomed Martin with generous hearts, and granted him his own terms. His family, in their exuberance to be reunited brought a Christmas tree into his hospital room, but it was Martin who suggested they refrain from lighting it; he thought it best they follow the rules of the hospital. The free spirit following rules was such a paradox, but he was simply showing the respect shown to him. Those who knew him expected nothing less from this sensitive, thoughtful guy. As his sister Carol described in her eulogy, "Martin was able to inspire an entire community of people to support him." What sat beneath his appearance was a gem.

This dance of acceptance would be appreciated by the Vietnamese Buddhist monk, Thich Nhat Hanh, who likes to hold Buddha and Christ together in the same thought. He does this to illustrate the importance of tolerating other's beliefs. Being open is not such a great sacrifice. In fact Martin brought out the best in those who risked being open to a relationship with him. Dawn Dennis, from Canadian Mental Health Association, was one of the first to forge a relationship with Martin. "It took great courage to live his life," she says, "to battle everyday." But this isn't what Martin presented. Martin, she says, "had a deep sense of calm about him. He felt he lived a life of value, lived his life well."

Although Martin had no agenda of his own, his presence demanded an agenda of us. He was a mirror held up so we could look at ourselves, as are the hundreds of people who call the street, home. Perhaps Martin was simply the most visible. Everyone in the twin cities knew Martin Tarback. He was as well

known as the mayors but possibly even more recognizable. However many wouldn't have known him by name but as a presence in these cities for the past two decades. Like a guardian angel, never leaving our streets. And this was his gift to us if only we can figure out how to open it. Everyone I've talked to has a Martin story. Through him we found common ground, we all were connected.

As she said her final goodbye to the brother she always thought would be a rock star, Carol Tarback said "Martin will forever rewrite the lyrics on how a community responds to it's homeless."



Over 300 people gathered at St. John's Kitchen for Martin's memorial.

This past year a remarkable story highlighted the life of Martin Tarback, someone known for his long dreadlocks, beard and heavy unkempt coat. Martin who died of cancer on March 17th 2009 was only 41. Over 300 people gathered at his memorial at St. John's Kitchen.

Martin's story links to two on-the-street projects that have grown from Working Centre – the Psychiatric Outreach Project and Downtown Outreach – both focused on supporting those left behind. The kind of help outreach provides is the kind of help you might provide to those in your family with the least ability to look after themselves. Outreach increasingly supports individuals where they are at, on the street, through traumas, housing, doctor appointments, dementia, mental health issues, bill paying, securing social income etc.

In Kitchener and Waterloo, there are now cooperative efforts to provide supports through downtown outreach workers, the psychiatric outreach project, workers from CMHA and Waterloo Homes for Mental Health, the mental health

court, Kitchener Downtown Community Health Centre, Grand River Hospital, housing support workers, House of Friendship and Mary's Place. This work is increasingly effective at supporting individuals with multiple supports.

Many were involved over the years in the outreach effort to connect with Martin. Since last summer the psychiatric outreach nurse committed day and night to find Martin to ensure he would get his psychiatric and pain drugs every 10 hours to help him deal with his growing cancer. As the fog in his head slowly cleared, a relationship built over many months blossomed into friendship that Martin invited many others to join. When he was admitted into Freeport Health Centre nurses and outreach workers, who became his family, surrounded him.

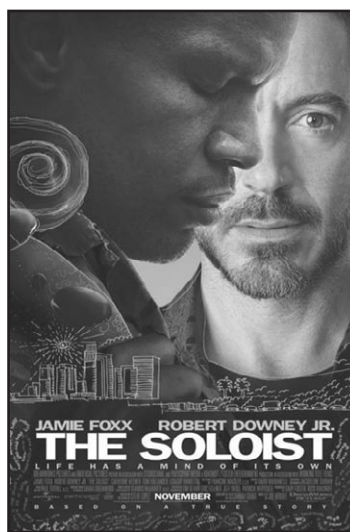
Martin's sister Judy asked for a memorial walk to conclude the service. WRPS Superintendent Brian Larkin arranged for a police escort of the funeral march that walked along King Street to Speakers Corner to commemorate Martin's long journey as a street person. Roses were placed at Martin's favourite spots and a fitting musical tribute at Speakers Corner concluded this meaningful community experience.

The Soloist

By Leslie Morgenson

"The Soloist" hit the big screen this past April, to rave reviews and movie line ups flocking to view this touching tale. This true story chronicles the growing relationship between a journalist, Steve Lopez and a homeless man, Nathaniel Anthony Ayres, who before being diagnosed with schizophrenia, had a promising musical future as a cellist. While studying at the Juilliard School in New York city, Mr. Ayres is struck with his illness, as is often the case, in his early adult years. And what follows is the familiar chronology of events, spiraling down to the street. But though this appears to be a movie about the life of Mr. Ayres, by turning our attention toward Mr. Lopez, we would get a better understanding of the problems facing people in mental distress.

As the film demonstrated, the disease is limiting, but the diagnosis, is perhaps even more limiting, as diagnoses often are, imprisoning people and not allowing them to grow and be anything except an illness. In the movie, it was Mr. Lopez's lack of understanding of the illness and his arrogance in assuming to know Mr. Ayres needs, at times without even consulting him, that accurately depicts the problems faced by those with mental health issues, beyond the illness itself. Because as complex as schizophrenia is, daily life is compounded by the attitudes of other



people, the lack of education and the fear that follows. So people who are most in need of understanding and compassion are the most isolated in our community.

Although Mr. Lopez does in fact develop a relationship with Mr. Ayres based upon mutual respect, the movie portrays Mr. Lopez clinging to the many assumptions our culture maintains about mental illness, and thereby holds a mirror for us to reflect upon. Without consulting Mr. Ayres, Mr. Lopez demands of the director of Lamp Community, a non-profit organization working with the street population in Los Angeles that Mr. Ayres needs psychiatric care and medication. Although medication is the answer for some people, many opt to stop taking medication for a variety of

reasons including side effects, lack of quality of life or may simply not be effective.

Mr. Lopez also decides that Mr. Ayres needs housing, a decision that is initially made without Mr. Ayres's consent. In fact Mr. Ayres is upset and hesitant with the prospect of housing, needing to approach it differently. But Mr. Lopez's decision making continues, arranging a cello teacher, and finally delivering papers for Mr. Ayres to sign without proper explanation. Both of these final solo decisions culminate in negative responses from Mr. Ayres who in his frustration takes a punch at Mr. Lopez, in what seemed like the only appropriate reaction. A cathartic moment for Mr. Ayres and for the viewers.

At St. John's Kitchen we have among our population, musicians who once had brilliant musical careers ahead of them who were suddenly halted because of schizophrenia. People who continue to have music playing in their heads. But the complexity of their diagnoses doesn't permit easy answers. Even the most basic assumption, of providing the instrument, can be fraught with difficulties to make it impossible.

Walking the journey with someone with schizophrenia is a trail through an uncut woods, without blazes, without markers, without familiarity.

Although I suspect the real Mr.

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Multicultural Cinema Club: Creating Cinema Culture



The Multicultural Cinema Club (MCC) was established in December 2006 to create a culture of cinema within Waterloo Region by screening films, hosting discussions, creating artistic works, and encouraging community film-making.

MCC founder, Azam Fouk Aladeh, is a professional filmmaker/producer. MCC is not only for New Canadians. It is an open concept for anyone interested in artistic community projects.

Established through The Working Centre, this community tool project has expanded with support from Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Ontario Arts Council, and the City of Kitchener.

Film Festivals

MCC organizes three film festivals per year: two that showcase award-winning films from countries and cultures from around the globe, while the "Local Focus" film festival celebrates films produced in the Region of Waterloo.



Above: The Local Focus 2 Opening Gala, held at the Walper Hotel.
Below: Kitchener City Hall Council Chamber full of movie-goers



Small Film Studio

MCC has developed a small film studio that provides the tools necessary for film-making workshops, production of documentaries or dramas on social and community issues, and rental of film-making equipment in a low-cost and accessible manner.

Volunteering at the MCC

Volunteering for MCC earns you credits, and the more credits you earn, the more benefits you get! Credits are earned by helping out with activities such as distributing flyers and brochures, volunteering at the film festivals, running work-

shops, or by being a crew member in our shootings. Credits can get you discounts at renting equipment, workshops, or a reimbursement of your membership fee.

Workshops

To educate the community in the art of filmmaking and make filmmaking more accessible, we offer workshops covering a range of topics. Recent workshops presented:

- Find the Heart of Your Writing, Part I & II with Eliza Crosland
- Documentary Making with Paul Francescutti
- Video Reporting for Web and TV with Philip Bast
- The Sony HD EX1 Camera with Chris Miedell



Above: MCC's documentary "Legacy of the Heart" about June Callwood.

Below: A scene from "Downside Up", winner of a People's Choice Award at Local Focus 2.



Partners for Community Filmmaking

1. Neruda Productions
2. Isabella Stefanescu - All for You: Body and Soul of a Robot
3. Motivational Media
4. Phoenix Summit
5. Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council
6. MT Space
7. City of Kitchener
8. KW Social Planning Council
9. Waterloo Region Arts Council



Above: A scene from "Going to the Moon", produced in cooperation with Neruda Productions.

Below: MCC recorded events at The Working Centre's Mayors' Dinner fundraiser.



Films Produced by the MCC

The MCC aims to produce films that educate the public about relevant social issues while creating opportunities for volunteers to participate in and learn about filmmaking.

1. **Northern Choice** - exploring the lives and experiences of New Canadians



MCC documented the Phoenix Summit on Poverty at Kitchener City Hall.

2. **Legacy of the Heart** - a film about June Callwood, celebrated Canadian and founder of Casey House
3. **Downside Up** - explores youth homelessness in Downtown Kitchener



Youth filmmakers working together to produce short animations at the MCC animation camps.



Animation Camps for Youth

The MCC has offered several youth animation workshops and camps, in cooperation with Ed Video. These camps have provided participating youth with basics skills in creating various types of animation while encouraging artistic expression and involvement in the arts.

We have openings for the July and August youth animation camps. Contact Azam at 519-743-1151 ext. 146 to register.

For more information about the Multicultural Cinema Club, call 519-743-1151 x.146, or visit www.kwmcc.org

IRAQ IN HOLLYWOOD

A free film festival featuring films about the war in Iraq

June 16th - June 21st at 7:00 PM each day

Kitchener City Hall - Council Chamber

TUESDAY, JUNE 16TH - **REDACTED (2007)**



Director: Brian De Palma
Rating: 18A Runtime: 90 min.
Awards: 3 wins & 2 nominations

Redacted is a fictional drama loosely based on the Mahmudiyah killings in Iraq. The director argues that the film provides a realistic portrait of U.S. troops and explores how they are presented in the media.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17TH - **STOP-LOSS (2008)**



Director: Kimberly Peirce
Rating: R Runtime: 112 min.
Awards: 1 win & 4 nominations

During his tour in Iraq, Sgt. King lost three soldiers in an ambush. After returning home, King expects to be discharged, but is suddenly ordered back into active duty in Iraq.

Visit www.kwmcc.org for more information and a full list of films

Film Equipment Rentals

We have assembled a complete range of film-making equipment including cameras and accessories, lighting and sound equipment, and editing/post-production suites. We have made these resources available to individuals and groups to rent or borrow for their own projects.



In doing so, film-making has become more accessible to the community, with uncommon and expensive tools available to rent at a very low cost, increasing the potential for artistic and cultural by reducing barriers to obtaining filming equipment.

If you have old filming equipment that you would like to donate, please contact Azam, 519-743-1151 ext. 146.

10% Unemployed

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- 3000 people used The Working Centre's Job Search Resource Centre in the year before the economic bubble busted.

The unemployed and those relying on temporary labour know how to scavenge for jobs. Over the last five years, they have had little choice but to scrounge the job market looking for work.

They know that less than 30% of the unemployed in Ontario qualify for Employment Insurance. When they do get benefits they are meager and provide support for less than a year. Ontario Works, the option of last resort when savings are wiped out, is hardly even considered a choice.

While the labour market may have been bursting with job opportunities, many of these opportunities were of a short-term contract nature. Over 25% of the labour force has been constantly shuffling in and out of jobs, a kind of reserve labour force, with no thought of long-term security.

A recent article in The Record reassured the unemployed that the jump to 10% unemployment was really a sign of success at creating jobs. This kind of analysis ignores why so many people have entered the labour market. We have created a society whose expensive infrastructure demands that average income families need two incomes, while single income earners scrimp to get by. We are now witnessing how vulnerable this system is to financial distress.

10% unemployment is an obvious outcome of an economy that relies on the temporary labour market to employ a substantial proportion of its workers. When the crisis hit, companies were forced to hit the layoff button and temporary labour is the first to be let go. When you combine those layoffs with the plant closings, it is no wonder that the unemployment rate has risen to 10% so quickly.

In our Region, there are well over 15,000 newly unemployed this year. Many of whom face the constant stress of job loss, rejection, and the frustration of not having enough money to pay bills.

It is one thing to participate in the reserve labour force when there are job opportunities. It is quite another when you send out resumes with the realization that few companies are hiring. You quickly become very uncertain about the future. Is this one more step or is it a journey to nowhere?

A new kind of Solidarity will be called for in an economy that no longer produces jobs so easily. What about those whose livelihood has been dependant on the availability of low wage work? We are entering an era where the economic model we have become dependant on may no longer provide our community with the minimal security of the recent past.

The reserve labour force will continue to look for work alternatives, including entering the informal economy to ensure they have money to pay the rent. Some are even glad for the opportunity for new possibilities. They know that the labour market is not for their enjoyment but rather forces them to compete in order to get ahead, thus creating a vicious circle of despair as the realities of the economic down-

turn cycle take hold.

What happens as the realities of this long term economic down cycle take hold? In the last week the list of obstacles grows as the car business deals with bankruptcies, general manufacturing is hit by the rising Canadian dollar, disintegrating national and provincial finances and worse, personal debt that is ballooning.

High unemployment means that our communities will need to find alternatives as the economy fails to provide jobs for those who need to work.

The Soloist

continued from page 4

Lopez took some time in cultivating a mutual and lasting relationship with his new friend, for the purposes of the movie he paints himself tumbling into all of the traps that our culture collectively falls into when dealing with schizophrenia. Without conversation, without negotiation, by simply thinking they alone know what's best for the person, they act as Mr. Lopez. In other words, as a soloist. And we witness the disastrous results. In an individualist society, where people focus only on themselves, there are many Mr. Ayres who suffer. Community is a choir, not a solo. People with the diagnosis of schizophrenia, need an understanding community, a circle of caring individuals, people willing to hear the moments of lucidity and the delusions. It is, in fact the only way, as Mr. Lopez finally realizes in the movie. After making many mistakes he realizes the only thing he can do is be a friend to Mr. Ayres. And the movie ends, as a duet.

Job Search Resource Centre

The Job Search Resource Centre is very full and lively. We have served over 5,000 people in the last year - which doesn't include the many people who drop in for information, to use the computers, to read the paper, to look for a friend, to check their phone messages. Our core work is providing focused one-on-one assistance offered in a respectful and friendly way. We welcome all who come to the Centre - those who are in-and-out of the labour market, the recently unemployed, New Canadians looking for work or who are looking to enter their profession, people thinking about work change.



Surrounding these core services are a number of other projects: Customized assistance for workers laid off in large groups, Reduced Fare Bus Pass Program (TRIP), Immigrant Loan Program, Workplace Language Program, Speak English Café, a Bridge Training Program for New Canadians entering the Social Work field, sector-specific events (like the recent Jobs in the New Green Economy panel), and a series offered in May & June this year entitled Living with Less Money.



Join Us for Wednesday Market Days 43 Queen Street South, Downtown Kitchener

Each week you can pre-order locally grown vegetables, organically raised meat, and natural foods from Ontario

How it Works

- * Order weekly based on what is available!
- * Place your on-line order between Friday and Monday each week.
- * Pick up and pay for your order on Wednesdays between 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. at the Queen Street Commons Café, 43 Queen Street South, Kitchener.

How to Register

- 1) Visit www.theworkingcentre.org/food, complete the registration form and mail/fax it back to us, OR
- 2) Send an email to foodbuying@theworkingcentre.org, OR
- 3) Call Rebecca at 519-743-1151 ext. 130



Suppliers Include:

Farmers' Field Growers Collective is a group of a dozen small-scale growers west of Waterloo who work together to distribute produce grown using organic farming practices in the K-W area.

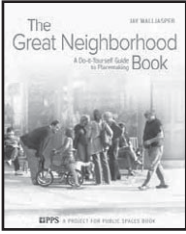
Traditional Foods is a group of small family farmers mainly from the Amish tradition who raise beef, pork, lamb, chicken, and eggs.

Ebytown Food Co-op is a buyer's club that provides access to high-quality, often organic foods and household goods at wholesale prices.

GROW Herbal Gardens is a project of The Working Centre that creates herbal products including soaps, salves, teas etc.

Support local farmers — and enjoy the company of others with an interest in our local economy!

Alternative Work Catalog

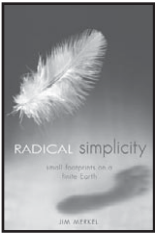


The Great Neighborhood Book A Do-it-Yourself Guide to Placemaking

Jay Walljasper and Project for Public Spaces

Neighborhoods decline when the people who live there lose their connection and no longer feel part of their community. Recapturing that sense of belonging and pride of place can be as simple as planting a civic garden or placing some benches in a park. The Great Neighborhood Book explains how most struggling communities can be revived, not by vast infusions of cash, not by government, but by the people who live there. This exciting guide offers inspiring real-life examples that show the magic that happens when individuals take small steps, and motivate others to make change.

192 pages \$23.95 softcover



Radical Simplicity

Small Footprints on a Finite Earth

Jim Merkel

In the face of looming ecological disaster, many people feel the need to change their own lifestyles as a way of transforming our unsustainable culture. Radical Simplicity guides the reader to a personal sustainability goal, then offers a process to monitor progress to a lifestyle that is equitable amongst all people, species, and generations. Radical Simplicity is a practical, personal answer to the challenges that our society will face in the 21st century.

288 pages \$19.95 softcover

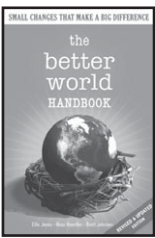


Gardening for the Faint of Heart

Robin Wheeler

This humorous yet practical gardening guide will help you get "down to earth". With illustrations and useful suggestions, this book is ideal for the novice gardener. Learn about everything from planning a garden and getting started to pruning, managing pests, seeding and breeding, greenhouse and container gardening and more. This book never loses sight of the fact that gardening should be fun!

184 pages \$19.95 softcover



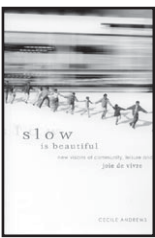
The Better World Handbook

Small Changes that Make a Big Difference

Ellis Jones, Ross Haeflner, and Brett Johnson

Specifically designed to reach people who normally would not consider themselves activists, The Better World Handbook is directed toward those who care about creating a more just, sustainable and socially responsible world but don't know where to begin. Substantially updated, this revised best-seller now contains more recent information on global problems, more effective actions, and many new resources!

300 pages \$19.95 softcover



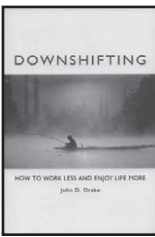
Slow is Beautiful

New Visions of Community, Leisure, and Joie de Vivre

Cecile Andrews

Slow is Beautiful explores the notion that the frantic pace of modern life is resulting in a major decline in the happiness of the general population. Troubled by destructive lifestyles devoted to money and status, our society is affected by subtle consumer, corporate, and political forces which are stamping the joy out of our existence. Andrews suggests ways of building a more fulfilling life through caring communities, unhurried leisure, the development of personal connections to others, and the slow-down of life in general.

256 pages \$19.95 softcover



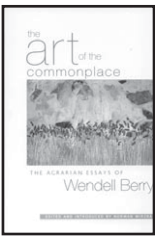
Downshifting

How to Work Less and Enjoy Life More

John D. Drake

Drake, a former high-level executive who chose to downshift, offers realistic, viable alternatives to a work-dominated life. He'll guide you through all you need to do to make a good living, yet find more free time for yourself and those you care about most. He examines numerous alternatives, including: Flextime, lateral and downward moves, and shortened work weeks and, more.

135 pages \$14.70 softcover



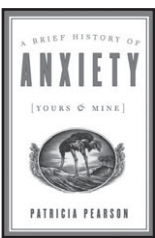
The Art of the Commonplace

The Agrarian Essays of Wendell Berry

Wendell Berry

The Art of the Commonplace gathers twenty-one essays by Wendell Berry that explore ideas such as Why is agriculture becoming culturally irrelevant, and at what cost? What are the forces of social disintegration and how might they be reversed? And, how does the corporate takeover of social institutions and economic practices contribute to the destruction of human and natural environments? These essays express support of local economies, farming communities, and family integrity.

330 pages \$18.95 softcover



A Brief History of Anxiety

Yours and Mine

Patricia Pearson

In this clever and witty book, argues that the millions of anxious people in North America far from "nervous nellys" with weak characters who just need a prescription and a pat on the head. She questions what it is about today's culture that is making people anxious, and offers surprising and inspiring answers and solutions based on her own fierce battles with anxiety. Drawing on personal episodes of incapacitating dread as a vivid, often hilarious guide to her quest to understand this most ancient of human emotions, Pearson delves into the history and geography of anxiety.

198 pages \$19.95 softcover



Simply in Season

Recipes that Celebrate Fresh, Local Foods in the Spirit of More-with-Less

Mary Beth Lind and Cathleen Hockman-Wert

For over 25 years, this cookbook has helped families establish a climate of joy and concern for others at mealtime, while improving nutrition and saving money. Full of recipes and suggestions on how to eat better and consume less, it addresses the concern that North Americans are doing the opposite — consuming more and more food made up of wasteful calories and unnecessary packaging. Learn to celebrate the joy of simple meals made from whole ingredients.

352 pages \$28.75 hardcover



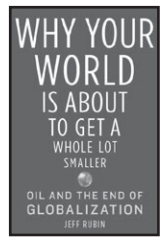
More-with-Less

Recipes and Suggestions by Mennonites on How to eat Better and Consume Less of the Worlds Limited Food Resources

Doris Janzen Longacre

For over 25 years, this cookbook has helped families establish a climate of joy and concern for others at mealtime, while improving nutrition and saving money. Full of recipes and suggestions on how to eat better and consume less, it addresses the concern that North Americans are doing the opposite — consuming more and more food made up of wasteful calories and unnecessary packaging. Learn to celebrate the joy of simple meals made from whole ingredients.

328 pages \$28.75 hardcover



Why your World is About to Get a Whole Lot Smaller

Oil and the End of Globalization

Jeff Rubin

Rubin argues that the era of abundant cheap oil that has been driving all areas of the western economy is about to end. With world demand poised to outstrip supply, the rules that allowed for a constantly expanding consumer economy are changing. The ultimate result will likely be a much smaller world which deemphasizes global trade and focuses on small-scale local production and a far less energy-intensive way of life.

286 pages \$?? hardcover

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WATERLOO SCHOOL FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Gregory Baum & Ken Westhues speaking at St. John's Kitchen

By Joe Mancini

This past winter, the Diploma in Local Democracy project hosted three lectures at St. John's Kitchen exploring Local Democracy from three perspectives.

Gregory Baum

In March, Gregory Baum, Canada's most noted social theologian, spoke on **The Social Economy of Karl Polanyi**. He described how formerly people worked to affirm their place in society, work was embedded in community seeking the common good. Baum laments how much of work now excludes community. Work should reinforce the social bond, it shapes our character and culture. Inclusive work heals society from below.

Poverty is the loss of cultural solidarity. Humanity has survived because we know the importance of looking after the other. Despite material poverty, people pull together. Poverty is thus created by individualism taken to a place where it need not go.

Baum's ideas mesh neatly with our own ideas on community tools. Every day at St. John's Kitchen, Worth A Second Look Furniture and Housewares, Recycle Cycles Bike Shop, and all the other projects over 300 people are volunteer workers participating in social projects where friendships combine with a hub of purpose filled activity, providing direct services in multiple ways.

It was a special event reflecting on the role Gregory Baum played in supporting social justice groups to embrace a theology of liberation in the early 1980's. The Working Centre directly and intentionally rooted itself in downtown Kitchener by reading and acting on this theology.

Jim Lotz

In April, a long time friend of The Working Centre, Jim Lotz, spoke as a practitioner, observer and author of many Community Development books. He was critical of the Cargo Cult approach to development where someone brings all the ingredients, lays out a package with the expectation that development will begin. He is clear that a process that involves human beings to reach their true potential demands much more subtlety.

Lotz presented a wide array of ideas and approaches in a conversational format. He told the story of how Moses Coady of the Antigonish Movement would help people believe they could do ten times more than they thought they could do. Who do you talk to when you want to change the music, the monkey or the organ grinder? There is common knowledge in all communities, experts do not need to dominate the conversation. You need a sense of humour or get out of the way. Government is not your enemy, they are your servant. A community without a spiritual basis has a hard time lasting two years. You need enormous patience to do this work with people. How many initiatives make the problems worse by imposing bureaucratic solutions. Where government ends, community begins. Be a bridge and remember that people walk over bridges.

Ken Westhues

In May, Ken Westhues used his lecture to contrast where The Working Centre sits in relation to traditional left and right wing understanding of society. From the perspective of the right, The Working Centre is the type of community initiative necessary to help those individuals left behind by capitalism's successes. Its emphasis on giving people opportunities and tools is a solution favoured by right and left. The left is deeply offended by inequality of any kind and constantly proposes state action to reduce inequality.

However, The Working Centre travels along a different road, a third way that Westhues described as more interested in gifts than possessions, a focus on the person, dialogic, reciprocal, and especially favouring producerism in contrast to consumerism. The Working Centre emphasizes self-help and mutual aid as an ongoing community response. Jim Lotz made it clear that development is never an abstraction. It always involves the interaction of human beings. Ken presented his lecture in a format that encouraged discussion to build on the common and divergent understandings that are part of all communities.

These lectures offered an opportunity to explore the ideals of community development in the way Jim

Lotz describes in his book **The Lichen Factor** as "balancing Concord and Discord and encouraging the upward spiral that helps people do more with fewer resources while building their confidence and capability in gaining control over their own individual and collective lives."

SOC 209 This Fall

For 15 years, The Working Centre has hosted sociology courses offered by the University of Waterloo. These are taken for credit toward a UW degree by registered UW students, but there is usually room for half a dozen adults who want to sit in. Doing so is an excellent way of "trying out" university informally.

SOC 209: Ancestry, History, and Personal Identity, with Dr. Ken Westhues

In this class, "each student analyses his or her own family history in light of social, cultural, and economic trends over the past century, as a means of understanding the basis of his or her own identity. The analysis is reported in an essay of about 25 pages."

Call Kara at 519-743-1151 x.119 for more information.

Diploma in Local Democracy

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To Apply

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2. Contact Kara Peters Unrau at 519-743-1151 x119 or kara@theworkingcentre.org
3. Pick up an application at The Working Centre's front desk at 58 Queen Street South

Axioms, Aphorisms, & Anecdotes for Activists

By Jim Lotz

The world is awash in words. This column seeks to record short bursts of information and ideas that I have found useful in making sense of society and its ways. I hope they will provide insights, ideas and understanding for others concerned with making the world a better place. Where there is no source identified, the quotations are original -- or I have forgotten where I acquired them.

"All generalizations are misleading, including this one."

"The ultimate result of shielding men from the effects of folly, is to fill the world with fools." - *Herbert Spencer, originator of the concept of the survival of the fittest*

"Years ago, manhood was an opportunity for achievement, and now it's a problem to be overcome." - *Garrison Keillor*

When Woodrow Wilson was asked why he was running for president when he was a university president, he replied: "I wanted to get out of politics."

"...every central government worships uniformity; uniformity relieves it from inquiry into an infinity of details..." - *Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America*

"It's the steady rain that soaks." - *Japanese axiom*

"What does it matter if the cat is black or white, so long as it catches mice?" - *Chinese axiom*

"Experts are not great for empowerment." - *Ray Ivany, President of Acadian University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia.*

"Our decisions to do something positive... can only be taken as a result of animal spirits-- of a spontaneous urge to action rather than inaction, and not the outcome of a weighted average of quantitative benefits multiplied by quantitative probabilities." - *John Maynard Keynes, General Theory of Employment Interest and Money*

"I married you for better or worse -- not for lunch." - *Wife to recently laid-off husband*

"We have to turn the begging bowl into a mixing bowl." - *Old Labour activist in Britain*

