

## Preamble

*Transition Salt Spring* is a local group within the Salt Spring Island community, committed to working with existing groups to address the urgent and critical issues of global climate change and declining fossil fuel supplies. Climate change makes carbon reduction essential and peak oil makes it inevitable.

*Transition Salt Spring* is part of a large and growing international network of transition communities, numbering over 320 to date.

We ask the question – For our community to sustain itself and thrive, how are we going to:

- significantly rebuild resilience, and
- drastically reduce carbon emissions?



## Vision

We believe that Salt Spring can transition to an energy-lean, carbon-constrained and relocalised future that is both vibrant and resilient.

We believe that only by involving all of us - residents, businesses, public bodies, community organizations, churches and schools - will we come up with the most innovative, effective and practical ideas, and have the energy and skills to carry them out.

Our future has the potential to be more sustainable and, ultimately, more satisfying than today. By working together we can unleash the collective enthusiasm and genius of our community to make this transition.

## Mission

With this in mind, our mission is:

1. To raise public awareness of the challenges, and opportunities, of climate change and peak oil,
2. To explore and support practical actions that will reduce our carbon emissions and dependence on fossil fuels,
3. To rebuild the island's resilience, that is, its ability to withstand shocks from the outside, through being more self-reliant in areas such as food, energy, transportation, jobs and local economy.



## A community process

We are undertaking a broad community-wide process which includes:

- awareness-raising around peak oil, climate change and the need to undertake a community-led process to rebuild resilience and reduce carbon,
- connecting with, and supporting, existing key groups in the community (food, energy, transport, health, economy),
- building bridges to local government,
- connecting with other transition initiatives around the world,
- supporting the formation of new groups where needed to look at other areas of community life,
- kicking off projects aimed at building people's understanding of resilience and carbon issues and community engagement,
- eventually launching a community-defined, community-implemented "Energy Descent Action Plan" over a 15 to 20 year timescale.

## How can you help?

You can support our transition initiative by:

- participating with existing groups in one of the many projects already underway,
- forming a group to initiate a new project,
- attending related events organised by community groups or by *Transition Salt Spring*,
- donating funds to support our work,
- helping with education events,
- teaching a re-skilling course,
- donating skills to build a website or produce educational materials,
- writing articles and spreading the word about the transition initiative on Salt Spring.

### Contacts

For more information about the transition movement, see:

[www.transitionnetwork.org](http://www.transitionnetwork.org)

For information on Transition Salt Spring, or to become a member:

<http://transitionsaltspring.ning.com>

For comments or questions, contact Daniel Ruane at: [250-537-8773](tel:250-537-8773) or [druane@shaw.ca](mailto:druane@shaw.ca)



**“Rebuilding a resilient community in a time of transition”**

