



What will the world in 2040 look like if we embrace the best climate solutions available now?
The documentary 2040 shows a future full of hope.

by Louise

Many GASP members enjoyed the free zoom screening of the documentary **2040** on September 30 hosted by HEN (Halton Environmental Network). If you missed this upbeat documentary, the key theme is that we have all the knowledge and tools we need right now to re-green the planet and draw CO₂ out of the air. The documentary gives us a clear vision of what life on the planet could be in 2040 if we have the courage to transition off of fossil fuels, change our outdated farming methods and restore ocean fisheries. The motivational film highlights six developments.

1 ON DEMAND TRANSPORT

- just like on demand TV such as Netflix.

By 2040, owning your own car will be expensive.

Cars are a stranded asset - they spend 96% of the time parked or unused.

As an example, two thirds of LA is made up of parking lots and roads. **On Demand transport** will take cars off the road. We won't need huge parking lots. We can use the reclaimed parking space to grow food. The environment will be much healthier when existing vehicles are all electric. Fossil fuels will stay in the ground. The tar sands will be transformed.



GASP Education Committee
Update & Resources

2 **REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE**, described as “farming and grazing practices that, among other benefits, reverse climate change by rebuilding soil organic matter and restoring degraded soil biodiversity – resulting in both carbon drawdown and improving the water cycle.”

2040 shows how quickly regenerative practices work to create organic matter in the soil. “The soil then absorbs water, supports micro-organisms and acts as a carbon sink- healing the planet as carbon is absorbed from the atmosphere.

As well, watch two amazing Netflix documentaries on regenerative practices - *The Biggest Little Farm* and *Kiss the Ground*.



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Or visit: <https://www.toronto.com/opinion-story/9877473-there-s-hope-for-canada-s-soil-its-name-is-regenerative-agriculture/>

3 **MARINE PERMACULTURE** is the ocean farming of kelp and seaweeds. It’s a win/win/win/win solution when it comes to taking positive steps to help the planet. Brown seaweed: restores alkalinity to the ocean; draws down CO₂ from the air; allows shellfish and other marine life to thrive; and provides a source of food for land animals.

Sea kelp is officially labelled as a brown seaweed, even though it can vary in colour. Sea kelp is among the largest species of seaweed. Reaching heights of more than 100 feet, the giant kelp is the largest seaweed and the largest of all marine algae. It lives in cold, clear waters where it forms large, dense kelp forests. Sea kelp fixes itself to a single spot and groups together to form thick forests. A sea kelp forest acts as home for other species of seaweed and provides habitat for thousands of other marine species. Large scale marine permaculture can provide an alternative food source to damaged land crops. To learn more about sea kelp forests, watch the beautiful Netflix documentary “*My Octopus Teacher*.” It shows film-maker and naturalist Craig Foster free diving daily in the undersea kelp forests off Cape Town.



4 DASHBOARD MONITORING OF ENERGY/ CONSUMPTION

Lisa Kohler, Executive Director of HEN, has worked with local schools on Dashboard technology. Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) has dashboard technology in all schools - they have real-time monitoring of electricity and can manage consumption from their board offices. Lisa added that HCDSB are looking at adding water to their Consumption Demand Management (CDM) program.

Halton District School Board has almost double the schools in our community. They were starting work on a dashboard system - in fact HEN had funding to support stakeholder end user design for HDSB. Unfortunately with COVID, the project has been put on pause. HEN is now receiving funding to support HDSB's engagement with their climate action plan.

5 SOLAR POWER

Energy is produced at the point where it is consumed. The film 2040 showed small villages in Bangladesh with solar power. Villagers can watch soccer games and don't have to use kerosene to cook which causes health issues. After a terrible storm, they don't lose power - they have more control VS a centralized system where it would take ages to repair the power system after a storm. The grid system becomes stronger, more resilient as more villages are connected. Solar batteries will be very cheap by 2040.

6 EDUCATION OF GIRLS

65 million girls around the world don't get to go to school. If girls stay in school longer, they develop skills so that they can support themselves. This helps to break the cycle of poverty. They also delay having kids until they are ready and have fewer kids. GASP members are fully engaged in the issue of gender equality.

We need leadership inspired by the vision offered by films such as **2040**, to make the earth in 2040 green and clean.



National Day of Remembrance and Action for Missing & Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls



Gitksan Grandmother Standing Strong at Highway of Tears # MMIG
Photo taken by Gitksan Hereditary Chief Dawamuxw

New Habits

by Erika

When I started to think about "greening" our life it was overwhelming! I quickly decided that I would work on changing our habits one room at a time. When I got to the bathroom I was shocked to see how much plastic we were using! Shampoo, conditioner, body wash, Q-tips, toothpaste tubes...it went on and on. After some research and a few visits to local stores I found that making the bathroom plastic free was easier than expected. Here are a few things we changed that make our bathrooms more sustainable:

- Shampoo and conditioner bars. Not only are these not in plastic bottles, but they are often packaged in paper!
- Bamboo or reusable Q-tips. These are great for makeup and nail smudges.
- Using refillable mason jars for hand soap if you prefer liquid soap.
- Switching back to using bar soap!
- Bamboo toothbrushes.
- Toothpaste in jars instead of tubes.

These are some of the things we've tried in our house. Not all of them have been a hit, but most have become lasting changes. I recently found compostable hair ties to replace all the small plastic ones. Hopefully they are a hit!

