

DUNHAM, QUEBEC

AUG 7-22

CONVERGENCE DAYS

AUG 18-22



STOP THE FLOW OF DESTRUCTION

CLIMATE ACTION CAMP

resistance is fertile



plant the seeds

Our planet is burning.

Each day our air, water and forests are turned into a dumping ground, and each day we inch closer and closer to climate chaos. The actions of a minority, in pursuit of wealth and power, have filled the Gulf of Mexico with oil and transformed pristine wilderness in Alberta into a vast moonscape. These toxic sacrifice zones are our future, unless we take a stand together and do something about it.

Around the globe a movement is growing. A movement based on broad and inclusive social engagement. A movement that rejects the notion that humanity must be at odds with the natural world, that this planet is merely a bank account to be depleted and consumed. This movement can save our planet, and create a just, equitable and healthy future for people and our little blue home.

Things might look pretty bad right now, but the times, they are a changing.

This booklet is the product of individuals involved in organizing the Quebec Climate Action Camp. Our hope is that in reading it, you will learn about the Trailbreaker, the tar sands, and just maybe, that you will be inspired to join us in Dunham. For more information, or to get involved before or after the camp, check out www.climateactionmontreal.wordpress.com.

The Climate Action Camp was born in England in 2006. The first camp brought 600 people out to the nation's largest point source of carbon emissions, the Drax coal fired power plant, for 10 days of workshops, trainings and more. Their goal was to "kick-start a social movement to tackle climate change". It worked.

Over the past four years Climate Camp has grown, with camps across the UK bringing out thousands and targeting the expansion of Heathrow airport, Kingsnorth coal-fired power plant and the G20 in downtown London.

Around the world camps have popped up in Australia, New Zealand and across Europe. This summer one of Canada's first climate camps will be held in Dunham, Quebec.

In late August, our camp will bring together rebels and renegades, gardeners and guardians, young and old. We will combine our hearts, hands, minds and spirits to challenge the Trailbreaker, a pipeline that snakes from the heart of the Tar Sands to the Eastern seaboard. Specifically we will be targeting a proposed pumping station which threatens the local community of Dunham.

But the goal of the camp is not only to confront a single destructive entity. We want to show the possibility of another world – sustainable, green and free of fossil fuels.

What should you expect?
Expect resistance, expect love,
expect friendship, create change.

“

The Camp for Climate Action takes action on the root causes of climate change and tackles injustice. We're not about nicely asking corporations or government to change their ways. We're about getting in the way, and building a mass social movement to tackle the enormous environmental and economic crises we face - Climate Camp UK ”

This camp, like those that have come before, will be organized and run entirely by the participants. An exercise in active, non-hierarchical participatory democracy, we will control our own destinies.

So what is the Quebec Climate Action Camp going to be?

Your call.

the trailbreaker taking aim at the tar sands

It has been called

'Canada's Mordor.' A toxic sacrifice zone larger than the entire nation of Greece, the Alberta tar sands is the largest and most destructive industrial project on the planet.

Each day in Canada, the Athabasca tar sands transform the pristine boreal forest into a vast moonscape. Cannibalizing water, energy, trees and earth the tar sands are the single largest point source of nontailpipe greenhouse gas emissions in the entire country.

land

Open pit mining of tar sands involves "clearing trees and brush from a site and removing the overburden - the topsoil, muskeg, sand, clay and gravel - that sits atop the oil sands deposit." The "overburden" that is removed is up to 75 metres (about 25 stories) deep, and the underlying tar sands are typically between 40 and 60 metres deep. After trees and brush are clearcut and either burned or sent to sawmills, the area is drained, and any local rivers are rerouted. Giant trucks then remove soil, clay and sand to uncover the prized tar sands. The sands are then removed and taken to plants to be processed. In the end, an average of four tonnes of earth must be removed to render one barrel of oil. The tar sands cover an estimated 141,000-square kilometres, of which approximately 3,400-square kilometres will be strip mined if currently-approved projects go forward

water

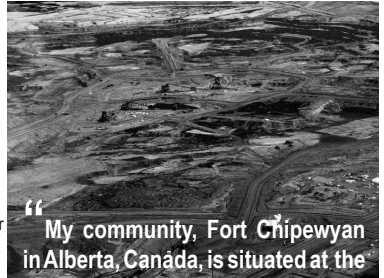
For each barrel of oil produced from the tar sands, between two and 4.5 barrels of water is needed. The water is used in the process of extracting bitumen from the naturally occurring tar sand. The bitumen is later "upgraded" into synthetic crude oil. Most of the water used ends up in giant, toxic tailing ponds. The water contains naphtha and paraffin, which are used in the extraction process, and oil leftovers like benzene, naphthenic acid and polyaromatic hydrocarbon, among others. Each day this toxic soup leaks over 11 million cubic litres into the nearby Athabasca River, part of one of the largest freshwater sources in North America.

energy

Between digging up the tar sand, separating out the bitumen, and subsequently upgrading it to synthetic heavy crude, the extraction process requires vast amounts of energy. Because the tar sand and bitumen must be heated, about 1/6 of the energy provided by a barrel of oil is expended to extract one barrel of oil from tar sand. The vast amounts of natural gas needed to extract millions of barrels of oil per day are leading to an anticipated shortage of supply. As a result, several energy megaprojects have been proposed.

people

Downstream communities are staring at the barrel of a gun. The pollution pouring out of the tar sands has created one of the largest epidemics of cancer, including rare and deadly cancers, in Canada. Bile duct cancer - normally found in 1 out of every 100,000 people - has had 10 confirmed cases in Fort Chipewyan, a community of little over 1000. The indigenous people in these communities cannot drink the water, or eat food from the land. The tar sands are tearing apart the very social fabric of the region.



"My community, Fort Chipewyan in Alberta, Canada, is situated at the heart of the vast toxic moonscape that is the tar sands development. We live in a beautiful area, but unfortunately, we find ourselves upstream from the largest fossil fuel development on earth. Oil companies like BP, and banks like RBS, are extracting the dirtiest form of oil from our traditional lands, and we fear it is killing us."

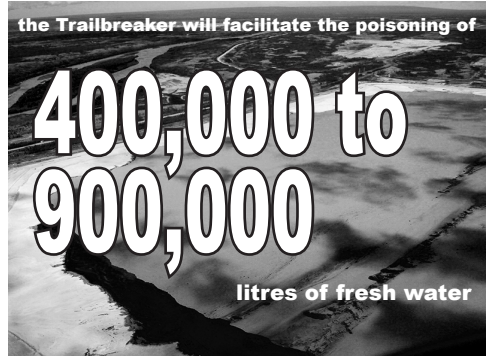
- George Poitras, former chief Mikisew Cree First Nation

the Trailbreaker

The Trailbreaker pipeline, and others like it across North America, are being pursued in order to facilitate a five fold increase in tar sands size and production over the next 15 years. It will pump 200,000 barrels of dirty tar sands bitumen each day from Alberta to Portland, Maine. It crosses 5 provinces, a national border and 5 states, eventually loaded onto tankers to be shipped all the way to the Gulf Coast of Texas. Right now, a pumping station is being built in the town of Dunham to finish this project, against the desires of a majority of residents.

the threat

Beyond simply being part of a massive expansion of the tar sands, the Trailbreaker also threatens Quebec. Over the past decade pipelines owned by Enbridge, the same company responsible for the bulk to the Trailbreaker, have ruptured 610 times. These breaks leaked over 21 million litres of oil, gas and petro-chemicals. This threatens local ecosystems, wildlife, agriculture and people.



“Growth
for the sake of
growth is the ideology
of the cancer cell.”

- Edward Abbey

pipelines

These pipelines are a threat, but also an opportunity. As the tar sands are set to expand, so too must their delivery system, making the beast vulnerable. These projects are both expensive and expansive, and often must make their way into unfriendly political territory. They are the achilles heel of the tar sands, and stopping them in their tracks will leave the industrial moonscape north of Fort McMurray alone....



We must act swiftly to tackle the root causes of climate change and create the systemic change needed to avert climate catastrophe. So that's what we're doing. Taking action. Building a movement. Collectively, becoming a force to be reckoned with. Come to Dunham this summer and be a part of it.

there is only one rule. Get involved.

Okay, that might not be entirely true but what is true, is that the strength of the Climate Camp is in what we can do and create together. There are no 'leaders' at the camp, only participants empowered for collective action. The entire camp is organized openly and horizontally, from cooking to creative action.

The Climate Camp is a place for anyone who wants to take action on climate change; for anyone who's fed up with empty government rhetoric and corporate spin; for anyone who's worried that the small steps they're taking aren't enough to match the scale of the problem; and for anyone who's worried about our future and wants to do something about it.

What to bring

Tent
Sleeping bag
Warm clothes
Toothbrush + paste
Sunblock
Rain-gear
Flashlight
A desire to change the world and a willingness to pitch in

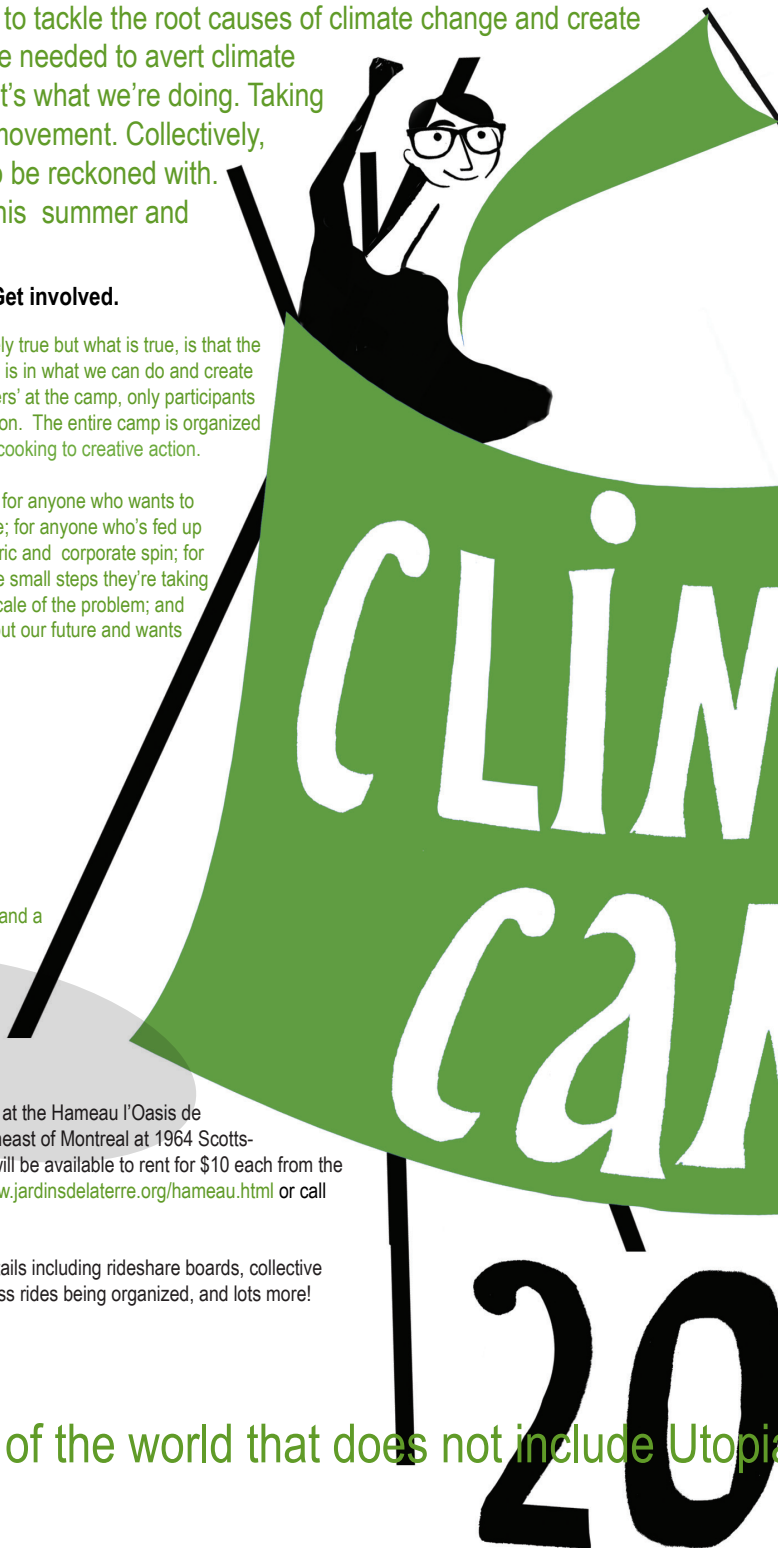
What not to bring

Bad attitudes
A belief that nothing can change.

The camp is going to be held at the Hameau l'Oasis de Dunham located 1 hour southeast of Montreal at 1964 Scottsmore Rd, Dunham. Rooms will be available to rent for \$10 each from the Hameau, check out <http://www.jardinsdelaterre.org/hameau.html> or call 450.263.6056

Check out our website for details including rideshare boards, collective transportation and critical mass rides being organized, and lots more!
www.uncampment.net

“A map of the world that does not include Utopia





We will be camping out in Dunham from August 7 until August 23

7-10 August

Transport and setting up the Camp

14-15 August

Localize This! events organized by and for local residents

18-22 August Convergence Days

Five days of workshops, trainings, skillshares, speakers, discussion and creative direct action!

Workshops will cover a broad range of topics and skills including: Food Security, Indigenous Solidarity Non-Violent Direct Action Mutual Aid, Self-Care, Agriculture (from ecological to urban guerilla), Climbing and more!

- There will be space and time provided for autonomous workshop planning!
- Nightly events with everything from amazing speakers to soccer and music

23 August

Tear down and returning the camp to nature

Want to give a workshop?

There will be plenty of space provided for autonomous workshops at the camp, but the more we know before the camp, the better we can accommodate everyone. If you have a burning desire to teach, train or share your skills

send an email to:
climateactionmtl@gmail.com.

Let us know when you're coming down, what kind of space you need, and any other important details!

Broadcast yourself!

We are teaming up with amazing independent media makers to set up a dynamic media center at the camp, creating audio, video, photo and print reports. Check out our site for more info and to join the indy media working group.

is not even worth glancing at." - Oscar Wilde, 1891

what is climate justice?

Climate justice is a vision to dissolve and alleviate the unequal burdens created by climate change. As a form of environmental justice, climate justice promotes the creation of policies and projects that address climate change fairly, ensuring freedom from discrimination.

This vision allows us to make the necessary links between climate change and social justice. The interrelations between environmental injustice and the other systematic injustices perpetuated against the people of the earth are many. Climate justice is a framework that recognizes that the root causes of climate change can only be resolved through broad social transformation.

Climate Justice is fundamentally at odds with a system of growth-oriented capitalism. The growth economy is straining due to the banking bailouts, energy demand is outstripping supply, and the climate crisis is being exacerbated by a commitment to carbon intensive energy and economic growth.

Democratically deficient and inequitable models of governance and private power must be confronted in order to affect the type of change needed to avert catastrophic climate change.

workers rights

Labour is one of the groups often forgotten, but at the heart of crisis on our planet. Too often individuals are forced to choose between earning an unsafe livelihood based on unsustainable production and unemployment. Right now, the East Montreal Shell Oil refinery is cutting over 500 jobs because of the unsustainable nature of a fossil fuel based economy in Quebec.

indigenous sovereignty

In Canada, Indigenous communities face the lion's share of impacts due to climate change, and the machinery of an industrial economy that is fueling it. Climate Justice recognizes the right to self-determination of Indigenous Peoples, and their right to control their lands and resources, and the right to protection against any activities that may result in the destruction or degradation of their territories and way of life. It affirms the right to free, prior and informed consent – the right to say “No” to development. Many of these struggles for land and self determination continue in Quebec, whether it is resistance to mining in Kanesatà:ke, clear-cut logging in Barrière Lake, or large scale hydro-dams in the Innu and Cree communities of the North.

migrant justice

Desertification and droughts will come hand in hand with a changing climate. As parts of the world, primarily in the global south, are hit first and hardest by climate change, migration towards countries in the global north will increase as well. A the flow of climate migrants increases, so too will pressure on borders, and the prisons that so often reinforce them. Today, migrant labour is being used in the tar sands, where exploitative migrant worker programs import cheap labour from other nations to work dangerous jobs producing the world's dirtiest oil. Here in Quebec, migrant workers are employed by massive industrial agriculture, another major contributor to climate change and ecologic degradation.

but a few examples

These are only a small sampling of the various aspects of climate justice. Climate change will also disproportionately impact women around the globe, especially in the global south. It is directly linked to increased militarism, wars of occupation and the national security states which come with them.

For more information on Climate Justice check out:

Climate Justice Montreal
www.climateactionmontreal.wordpress.com

Act for Climate Justice
www.actforclimatejustice.com

The 2002 Bali Principles
www.wrm.org.uy/actors/WSSD/Bali.html

Indigenous Environmental Network
www.ienearth.org/climatejustice.html

climate justice

organize, mobilize, reclaim power



Affirming the sacredness of Mother Earth, ecological unity and the interdependence of all species, Climate Justice insists that communities have the right to be free from climate change, its related impacts and other forms of ecological destruction.

- Bali Principles

el pueblo unido

peoples' solutions & the cochabamba accord

At some point during the spectacular failure that was last year's climate summit in Copenhagen (the infamous 'COP15'), someone – Bolivia's first ever indigenous president Evo Morales – had the idea of countering it with a different kind of summit. Not a summit where governments and corporations talked about how to make a quick buck out of the climate crisis while leaving the problem unsolved. But a summit where social movements and some governments of the South would come together to discuss the real structural changes needed if there's any hope in hell of dealing justly and effectively with climate change. A call was made for the movements of the world to gather in Cochabamba, Bolivia, in April 2010, for the first ever "People's World Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth".

But why another climate summit? Why send lots of people across the world to discuss what we already know - that we need to leave fossil fuels in the ground, recognise and make reparations for the North's ecological debt to the South, etc. – why another talk-show?

Because, to be honest, there are no silver bullets, and there's no certain pathway to getting any of these things done. It's all well and good to shut down tar sands projects one by one, but what the climate justice movement lacks, beyond the bullet-point-demands, is strategies for implementing these changes. Put differently: in Copenhagen, one key slogan was, "change the system, not the climate." Sure, but how? And with whom? Who's out there fighting for the same things as we are here? How do we work together to achieve this enormous task?

It was these questions that the climate justice movements gathered together to discuss in Cochabamba. 35,000 people from all over the world. Autonomous activists and government ministers, UN-bureaucrats and indigenous peasants, scientists and religious folks. The vibe was somewhere between Social Forum and global summit – which meant that there were also challenges. During the conference, movements from across Bolivia and Latin America formed an alternative working group, Mesa 18, which confronted the contradictions between the words and actions of many Latin American governments, including Bolivia.

The group discussed how resource extraction, exports and megaprojects, which fund the socialist development project of these governments, still devastate communities. The exciting thing was that these issues were acknowledged, and 600km south of Cochabamba the San Cristobal Community was using the opportunity to take action with blockades, marches and office take-overs against the multinational mining company that contaminates and threatens its water resources.

In the end, the conference came up with a final declaration that is somewhere between inspiring and frustrating. Inspiring, because it vastly amplifies and strengthens the critique of capitalism and infinite, insane economic growth that the Climate Action Camp and others have been articulating. Sometimes a presidential pulpit can be quite useful! It specifies, at a technical level, how some of our key demands could be implemented: for example, that climate debt repayments should bypass neoliberal institutions like the World Bank. And it calls for difficult goals, like writing a Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth. In this sense, it's also frustrating: it's yet another text that has all the right demands - and not enough of a sense of how we can get there.

"We have frequently printed the word Democracy. It is a great word, whose history, I suppose, remains unwritten, because that history remains to be enacted."
Walt Whitman

Cochabamba did many useful and important things. But the most important thing: it reminded us that we're part of a global movement. That whatever the challenges, we can be powerful if we work together with the hundreds and thousands fighting for climate justice elsewhere. In that sense, it wasn't just another summit, it wasn't Groundhog Day: it was a spectacular success, and a signpost to new possibilities opening up.

- from *Never Mind the Bankers* by Climate Camp UK

Resources

<http://climatecamp.org.uk/>

Oh Pioneers...the original, tons of information, much of which was gratuitously stolen for this publication...Thanks!

<http://climateactionmontreal.wordpress.com>

Local hell-raisers Climate Justice Montreal, check it out for updates on the Trailbreaker, climate camp, and all your climate justice needs!

www.cedunham.org

The local environmental committee in Dunham, QC

<http://www.risingtidenorthamerica.org>

Great primers, resources and work from our sisters and brothers south of the border.

<http://www.mediacoop.ca/>

Grassroots, co-operatively owned Canadian media

<http://www.dominionpaper.ca/>

News from the grassroots! Because the corporate media is a pile of, well you know...

<http://www.ienearth.org>

The Indigenous Environmental Network is a network of Indigenous Peoples empowering communities on issues of sustainable living and environmental justice.

<http://oilsandstruth.org>

Your one-stop-shop for everything tar sands related

<http://www.ourclimate.ca/>

Youth climate activism in Canada

<http://www.uppingtheanti.org/>

A radical journal of theory and action which provides a space to reflect on the state of political organizing in Canada.

<http://itsgettinghotinhere.org/>

Dispatches from the youth climate movement

<http://actforclimatejustice.org/>

Mobilizing for climate justice in North America

<http://www.handsoffmotherearth.org/>

Campaigning against geo-engineering and climate hacking experiments

<http://www.savegreenpeace.org/>

Working towards a co-operatively owned and solidarity based environmental organization

<http://www.climateconvergence.org/>

Similar gatherings taking place all around the world!

<http://www.dialogoclimatico.org/>

Establishing an alternative forum for discussing people's solutions during COP-16 in Cancun this winter

<http://canadacclimatejustice.wordpress.com/>

Canadians taking direct action for climate justice

The majority of this booklet is stolen.

Special thanks to all the fine folks at Climate Camp UK for their works, including photos, drawings and text.

Please reprint, distribute and borrow from this book at will.

No rights reserved.



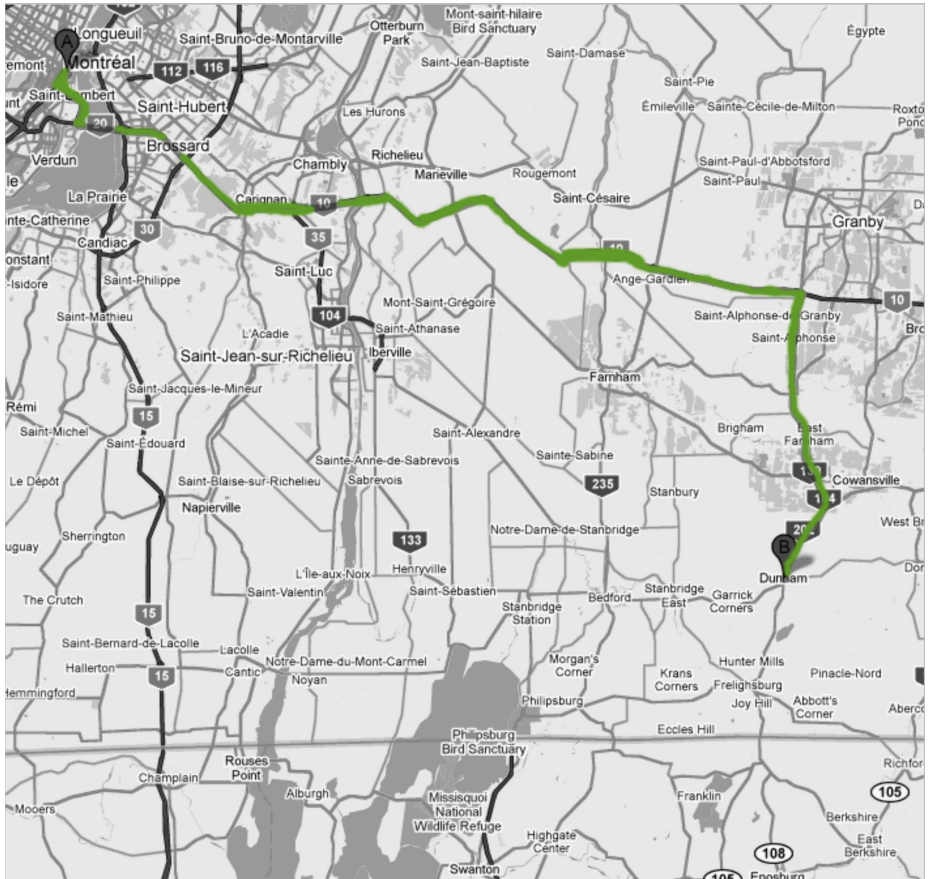
Dunham, Quebec

Camp: August 7 - 23

Action Convergence: August 18 - 22

workshops, trainings, and more

see you there...



“Idealists are foolish enough to throw caution to the wind. They have advanced humanity and enriched the world.”
- Emma Goldman