

Employment Opportunities in a Conserver Society

- As some jobs are lost, others are created. For example:
- The use of reusable and repairable items means that numbers of repair shops will increase.
 - These will help the local economy.
- As alternative sources of energy are used more, the technology and service sectors for these forms of energy will grow.
 - The use of alternative energy will mean a decentralization of energy production, such as photovoltaic(solar) cells on individual houses. This means that the jobs associated with this sector will also decentralize which is good for local economies and “the little guy”.
- Studies by the Pembina Institute have shown that a million dollar investment in new renewable electricity generation will create 33% more jobs than equivalent investments in new conventional energy supply.
- The infrastructure required for sustainable transportation such as bicycle paths, railway lines, and electric car parks with solar arrays available to recharge batteries will also create jobs.
 - For every \$1 million invested in public transit, 21.4 full-time jobs are created.
- Organic farming is more labour intensive and requires intermediate technology rather than large combines.
 - For example, in Saskatchewan farmers growing organic herbs for a growing nutraceutical industry had no equipment to help in harvesting the herbs. A young engineer began designing and manufacturing appropriate technology for this purpose.
- Organic forms of green space care are more labour intensive. Therefore, time for labour will go to the local land care companies rather than distant chemical plants.
- As recycling programs are put into place, jobs are created. For example, when the beverage container act became law in New Brunswick, 250 full and part time jobs were created at redemption centres alone.
- As industries are forced to cut down on the number of waste products going into the environment, new industries are created by the recovery of those products.
 - N B Power recovers gypsum from their coal fired electrical generating plants in Dalhousie and Belledune and sends it to the Canadian Gypsum Company to be made into wallboard.
 - Vanadium is recovered from the ash at the NB Power plant in Dalhousie and is used to make knife handles, among other things.
 - The City of Toronto receives royalties of \$2.5 million per year from companies making electricity out of methane produced by the landfill.
 - At Cavendish Farms on PEI, waste products from potato processing are used to produce methane which is used instead of bunker sea oil to produce steam for the plant's boilers.
- As we lead more sustainable lives, we need less money