

Frequently Asked Questions about the Youth Climate Convergence

Accommodation

There are currently folks within both the TCMN and the People's Summit who are looking for affordable lodging. This may come in the form of billets, community centres, faith-based centres, camping, etc. There will be information on the TCMN and PS websites as soon as it is available.

How do I get me and my allies to Toronto?

This is where we need to work together. Can we have a cross Canada bus trip from all coasts to Toronto—one which can pick youth up along the way? Can there be bike convoys? This is where we need to get creative, and the more creative we get, the better our story will be. The better our story is, the more media we get, and the more leverage we harness for our movement!

What do I say to people who don't think that "protests" (or protesting the G20) won't do anything?

We are coming to Toronto to build a movement. We are protesting the G8/G20 because these are some of the institutions that are creating injustices in the world. The Toronto convergence is an opportunity for young people to gain knowledge and experience from other movements and other organizers.

It is very likely that after the mobilizations in Toronto, these institutions (like the G8 or G20) will continue. But we cannot think of our goal only being to shut down these institutions, because then we lose sight of the goal to build our movement. By going to Toronto we have the ability to engage our networks and communities back home in a global system. In this way we can bring the movement back home and start organizing from the grassroots.

How do I talk about the Toronto convergence with folks who aren't "activists"?

I always start by mentioning the People's Summit. The People's Summit is a conference/giant teach-in about justice. It will be like Power Shift, in that it is an opportunity for like-minded individuals who are calling on world *leaders* to be responsible and accountable. The People's Summit will be happening on the weekend before the G20 summit, and is an excellent opportunity for youth to meet and speak with people in many movements. There is already an amazing line-up of speakers, workshops, and panels confirmed—and more keep coming.

This is also a great opportunity for those who do not identify as activists to learn about the world of "activism." This is also a great opportunity to realize that it really isn't that some of this *mobilization stuff* really isn't that scary. If folks come to Toronto for the People's Summit, they can learn about all the different workshops, events, and actions happening during the week of action and mobilization.

There are many ways to be involved even if you do not identify as an activist. Activists have many skills such as anti-oppression, social media, photography, videography, facilitation, consensus-building, and the list goes on and on. More than anything, the movement needs passionate people. If you are talking to someone who cares, then you are talking to someone who should join the movement.

Resources:

Websites:

People's Summit Website: <http://peoplessummit2010.ca>

TCMN Website : <http://torontomobilize.org>

Documents:

Principles of Climate Justice: <http://www.ejnet.org/ej/bali.pdf>

Principles of Environmental Justice: <http://www.ejnet.org/ej/principles.html>

The Rising Tide post-Copenhagen debrief <http://www.risingtidenorthamerica.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2010/02/lifedeath.pdf>

Posters to put up:

Please refer to <http://torontomobilize.org/posters> for all posters. If you need the poster in an alternative format, please let me know