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William Humber is Director of the “Office of Eco Seneca Initiatives” at Seneca College in Toronto and one of three principals of the “Regeneration Institute for the Great Lakes”, a partnership of McMaster University’s Dofasco Centre for Engineering and Public Policy, the Canadian Urban Institute, and Seneca College’s King Global Restoration Laboratory.

He was formerly a Chair in the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering Technology at Seneca College where he was responsible for the Centre for the Built Environment, one of two designated centres of excellence at the College. His lengthy 32-year career in the college system also includes work in Continuing Education and community outreach.

Humber has a Masters in Environmental Studies from York University (1975). He is author of ten books. His eleventh from Dundurn Press is written in collaboration with his son Darryl, and is scheduled for release in November 2009. It is entitled, “Let It Snow: Keeping Canada’s Winter Sports Alive” and covers Canada’s winter sports heritage and the ways climate change threatens their survival. His other works include histories of African Canadian athletes, baseball, and bicycling in Canada, and one on his hometown of Bowmanville, Ontario. He is also working on a book tentatively titled “Yes in My Backyard” championing a pro-active role for neighbourhoods in urban, social and economic planning.

He lectures on environmental and energy topics as they relate to education at conferences in the United Kingdom [The Inaugural Revitalization Network Event in London 14-15 May 2009], in Europe (The Sustainable City Conference, on the topic of The Neighbourhood Imperative, in Estonia in 2006), the United States (Chairs Academy, on the topic of Urban Sustainability, in Los Angeles in 2003) and throughout Canada (Association of Canadian Community Colleges on energy management training).

Humber is currently a member of a four person Management Committee appointed by the Government of Ontario to review corporate candidates for Ontario's Environmental Leaders program; a member of a national committee overseen by ECO Canada to develop standards for the accreditation of post-secondary programs in the environment; and one of three Canadian members of an international committee of the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics responsible for Sustainability and Renewable Energy.

In his hometown of Bowmanville he is Chair of the Old Bowmanville Neighbourhood Association, member of the Mayor's select committee on attracting post-secondary education to Clarington, member of the Valleys 2000 Committee since 1999, and served as a public advisor/member of committees responsible for community retail space, new urbanist development, and his own neighbourhood's long term revitalization. His play "Waiting for Mr. Bowman" was staged in 2008 as part of Bowmanville's 150th anniversary celebrations.

He has recently written the foreword for a soon to be released book on the revitalization of downtown Brantford, Ontario through the development of a new campus by Wilfrid Laurier University.



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