

Organic Islands Festival and Sustainability Expo

Canada's largest outdoor green event takes place

July 5 and 6th 2008 at Glendale Gardens & Woodland, Victoria B.C.

June 18, 2008:

Thousands of island residents, tourists and green enthusiasts will gather this year at the 4th annual Organic Islands Festival and Sustainability Expo to rub shoulders with sustainability visionaries and green community leaders while enjoying fine organic foods, fair-trade beverages and a musical line-up that has contemporary music fans on Vancouver Island buzzing. Considered to be a green think tank, the festival brings together the who's who of the green community including old time farmer Percy Schmeiser who has gained heroic stature amongst food advocacy groups for his David and Goliath legal battle with multi-national corporation Monsanto, and Jyoti Stephens, the young sustainability steward of Vancouver Island-inspired success story Nature's Path Foods.

Festival goers will discover a diverse and abundant supply of locally produced green goods while learning practical tips for living more sustainably -- with exhibits and demonstrations of solar energy, eco furniture, sustainable fashion, cosmetics, ethical investments, organic horticulture and more. Over 125 exhibitors with forward-thinking businesses form the backbone of the festival, while expert panelists, keynote speakers, hands on displays and food demos provide a wealth of proactive information.

Saturday morning's expert food producers' panel discussion *Farming in Urban Neighborhoods (F.U.N.)* will demonstrate how farming organically is accessible to urban and suburban residents. With 80% of the world's population living in urban neighborhoods, and the centralization trend growing, more and more people are saying Yes! In my backyard! See how Victoria homeowners are practicing SPIN farming and increasing what they can grow in a small space; or sharing their backyard in exchange for a share of fine organic produce harvested at home for them.

Held at beautiful Glendale Gardens and Woodland in Victoria, visitors will enjoy musical entertainment by modern day troubadour **Jeremy Fisher**, soundscape artist **Shane Philip**, Universal recording artist **Hayley Sales**, and the Juno-nominated dynamic duo **Mae Moore and Lester Quitzau**.

The popular Organic Libations tasting event will feature BC's award-winning organic wines from Summerhill Pyramid Winery and Lotusland Vineyards, unique organic coolers from Totally Organic Beverages, and delicious chilled ale and lager by Natureland Organics. Award winning Level Ground Trading will offer up fairly traded iced cappuccinos and hot drinks for coffee lovers.

In celebration of Vancouver Island's local bounty; the festival also features demonstrations by renowned French trained Chef Bill Jones from Deerholme Farm in the Cowichan Valley and whole food summer salads by The Good for You Gourmet- Victoria's green caterer Laura Moore. Activities for kids make the event good green family fun. Festival Director Deb Morse has pulled out all the stops to make the event fun and entertaining while presenting the possibilities for a sustainable future. " Live Green. Have Fun. We'll show you how!" says Morse.

Founded and directed by Victoria's Deb Morse, The Organic Islands Festival and Sustainability Expo has become Canada's largest outdoor green festival and features fun and entertainment for all ages; providing provocative, inspiring education about the green movement and how we

can effectively make it part of our everyday lives. Sponsored by: Level Ground Trading, Lifestyle Markets, and Nature's Path Foods.

For more information, see www.organicislands.ca

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