

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Contacts: Julia Ann Easley
WLU Information Officer
(519) 884-1970 ext. 2070

Cliff Bilyea, Director
Part-time Studies and Continuing Education
(519) 884-1970 ext. 4103

**The media will be
welcome to attend.**

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WLU to sponsor panel discussion linked to upcoming earth summit

Waterloo (May 21) — In anticipation of the United Nations earth summit, Wilfrid Laurier University will sponsor a panel discussion with local experts on the environment at the Waterloo Inn on Friday, May 29.

The meeting will include an hour-long PBS telecast "A Town Meeting on the Earth Summit," which will outline the goals of the United Nations Conference on the Environment in Rio de Janeiro from June 2 to 14.

With more than 175 heads of state expected to attend, the conference is intended to fashion international strategies to prevent further degradation of the environment and foster sustainable development.

Following the telecast, local panelists will discuss supporting actions that could be implemented in Waterloo Region.

They will include: Christopher Gosselin, manager of environmental planning for Waterloo Region; Christine Weylie, a Kitchener alderman and chair of the Kitchener environmental committee and the regional planning committee; Gordon Young, a professor of geography at Laurier and co-ordinator of the International Conference on Water and the Environment in Ireland in January; and Marie Sanderson, a professor of geography at the University of Waterloo and director of the Water Network.

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Participants in the telecast will be: Maurice Strong, secretary-general of the UN conference; Albert Gore, a senator from Tennessee; Vandana Shiva, a prominent Indian ecologist and adviser to the Third World Network; Anna Toni, chair of Actionaid; and Curtis Bohlen, head of the United States' delegation to the conference's preparatory committee.

The video will be shown from 11 a.m. to noon, followed by a half-hour lunch. The panel discussion will take place from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

The cost, including lunch, is \$35. For more information and reservations, contact the office of part-time studies and continuing education at (519) 884-1970 ext. 4447.