

# Visionaries Within Kingston



Photo By Kyle Hoobin

## Green Pioneers

Dan Hendry,  
Sustainability Programs Manager  
Katie McKenzie,  
Public Education and  
Outreach Coordinator  
Kingston Sustainability Centre  
[www.kingstonsustainabilitycentre.com](http://www.kingstonsustainabilitycentre.com)

Dan Hendry and Katie McKenzie have got the ball rolling at the Kingston Sustainability Centre (KSC). The KSC is located downtown on the corner of Princess St. and Montreal St. and has become a hub for all things to do with sustainability. Managed by these two youthful leaders, the not-for-profit centre operates as a community resource centre for sustainable development.

With a in Master's Degree in Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability, Dan's role at the KSC has been to drive Kingstonians through the Centre and engage in conversa-

tions about taking sustainable steps in daily life. Dan's knowledge and drive for sustainable development has helped the Centre itself become a sustainable space. The flooring was donated by a leading company in sustainable engineering, the lighting has been retrofitted to higher energy efficiency lighting, and the Centre has also been supplied with a programmable thermostat – not only saving valuable energy, but also saving valuable dollars to put into KSC programming.

Katie's knowledge and background in teaching has been essential for creating curriculum-based programs to cater to school groups from Kindergarten to Grade 12. Since February, the Centre has hosted several schools and plans to see more in the future. Part of the KSC has been created as a community classroom space, not only for school groups, but for anyone in the community wishing to hold meetings, seminars, workshops or courses with some focus on sustainability. For more information on using the space or booking a school visit, please contact us.

## Misunderstood But Not Forgotten

Matt Ellerbeck,  
The Snake Man,  
Snake Conservation 101  
<http://snakeconserve101.weebly.com>

Snakes are among the world's most misunderstood and feared animals. However, for Matt Ellerbeck, snakes have become a passion.

Matt Ellerbeck (aka Snake Man) is an animal lover and conservationist who focuses his advocacy and efforts on snakes. Matt's mission is to help contribute to the recovery of dwindling snake populations by providing educational presentations, raising awareness of the issues snakes face, standing up for snake rights, running conservation projects, promoting snake advocacy, preservation, and stewardship.

Matt's hope that his work will help alleviate people's fears and hatred of snakes, and that this in turn, will help decrease the number of snakes directly persecuted by humans.

To help raise awareness of the issues that snakes face, Matt has given numerous educational presentations to people of all ages. Some highlights include presentations for the Kingston Field Naturalists, the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority, St. Lawrence Islands National Park, students at the Kingstown Private School and Environmental Education students at Queen's University.

He has also written numerous articles on snakes which have been published in numerous conservation and animal rights related publications.

Matt also frequently appears in the local media to help get his message out to the public. Appearances have included local TV shows, news programs, radio interviews, and newspaper articles.

Matt has always loved snakes. Since early childhood he has spent every summer in marshes, ponds, swamps, and forests hoping to share some of his time with these interesting creatures. His love for these reptiles continues and he is committed to continuing his efforts on behalf of these misunderstood and maltreated animals.

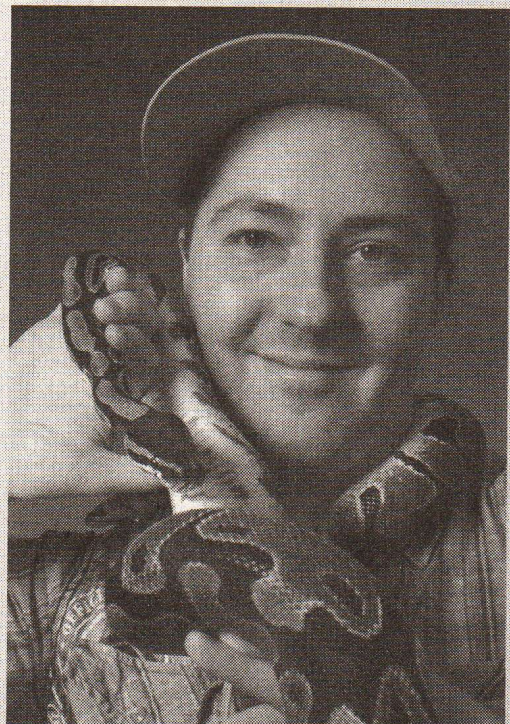


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