

## Webinar Chat: Beyond Trump: The Path to Real Change

with Richard Heinberg and Helena Norberg-Hodge

December 14, 2016

<http://www.localfutures.org/programs/global-to-local/webinars/beyond-trump/>

Robert M.	Our present PM here in Australia won the most recent national election with the mantra "jobs and growth".
David W.	The images of both Helena and Richard have very large pixels, so fuzzy, poor quality. Makes it a bit distracting and harder to look at.
Local Futures /ISEC	Sorry you're having trouble seeing Helena and Richard! They're showing up alright on my end, so it might be a connection issue on your end...but yeah, webcams aren't the best in terms of quality.
Stephen F.	its much easier to hear Richard than Helena - maybe she can get closer to the mike
Laura R.	Lousy rural Internet service and a local snowstorm are wreaking havoc to my web reception, so listening on the phone instead... but your voices are a bit fuzzy on the phone as well! Microphones would help! Thank you!
Local Futures /ISEC	Thanks for taking refuge from the snowstorm with us, Laura! We'll see about getting better mics for next time :)
Grant L.	I don't think Trump will interfere with successful industries -even green ones
Grant L.	he listens to Congress
Laura R.	Thank you!
David W.	Richard is wearing earphones and using a separate mike. So much better. Helena is relying on the mike and speakers of her computer so we hear an echo. Richard shows the solution. Also Richard understands the importance of front lighting so we see all of his face. Helena's side lighting may be dramatic, but is not the most effective for the message of a webinar. Both have good backgrounds. Mostly white with some, but not too much, interest.
Laura R.	As a Canadian, I know that many of us have very grave concerns about Donald Trump's presidency and what it means to Canada and the earth... and not so much about trade, but about his friendship with Putin, his racism, his reactionary responses to adversaries and his provocation of China over Taiwan. But agree that localization is key to the future of the planet.

Katie C.	resistance on the part of US scientists realizing the potential impacts of the Trump presidency on the coming years: <a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2016/12/13/scientists-are-frantically-copying-u-s-climate-data-fearing-it-might-vanish-under-trump/?utm_term=.301511aaa825">https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2016/12/13/scientists-are-frantically-copying-u-s-climate-data-fearing-it-might-vanish-under-trump/?utm_term=.301511aaa825</a>
Grant L.	this has been brewing - look at the industries owing Congress
Grant L.	owning
Laura R.	And of course, our serious concern about Trump's denial of climate change.
Kathy J.	the path of localized resilience
Grant L.	the US has needed serious political reforms
David W.	But especially a path of localized alternatives! Resistance by doing local alternatives and making them thrive.
Laura R.	How can we avoid the accusation of 'protectionism' when we discuss localization?
Katie Mae S.	great question, Laura!
Local Futures /ISEC	Indeed! We'll get to that during the Q&A, for sure. Keep the questions coming!
David W.	Stewardship of our word by protecting it first. So not capitulating to the language traps of neoliberalism.
Laura R.	Unfortunately, not able to hear much of your contributions Helena... your voice is breaking up too much... any way to fix that issue?
Tony B.	One of the places that the right and left can meet is with localization. this has worked well at my chamber of commerce.
Local Futures /ISEC	Unfortunately I don't think there's much we can do to help you hear Helena better, Laura. But we are recording the webinar, and it sounds fine on my end, so when we send around the recording you'll be able to listen to Helena's contributions. :)
Grant L.	I think framing the conversation to jobs will help
Caleb S.	@Richard and @Helena: Since Donald Trump comes from the real estate world I'll ask a real estate question....Do you see opportunities to use tools available under late capitalism (that will perhaps be privileged in a Trump administration) to use building/
Richard S.	think globally act locally right????

David W.	Inner Transitions is what I think is most important. The ability to determine which "information" one acts form. I'm working on 'Compassion' as the basis of decision making, and how we conduct our meetings and gatherings - starting with opening meetings and gatherings with some sort of "Compassion Contemplation" to set the ground of going forward.
Stephen F.	what would those conversations look like? who would have them with who?
Shail S.	"Trump's election, has in a way, proved how vulnerable, the reliance on present global systems is. I am scared, but think, in the long run, (with trump) we are getting rid of this hope that aids, international funds through present systems can and will help us out. And this will help us get the right message timely. For nations like nepal, that its not aids that will help us through, but we have to prepare for post-carbon economy soon.
Katie C.	how can we foster this transition to localization? how can we move gracefully and inclusively from such an oppressive system to a holistic, sustainable community-oriented society? How can we shift the minds of those with the most vested interest in the current institutions?
David W.	Check out the international Transition Town movement! Google it. Join a local one or start one where you live. I did!
David W.	Also called Transition Initiatives.
Tony B.	the 350 members of my chamber are all small business people, they want a strong local economy, left and right
David W.	Heinberg is a big supporter of it
Stephen F.	This is an interesting audience with great comments -- can we share contact information and develop mechanisms?
Katie Mae S.	I'm interested in Katie's last question. (ow can we shift the minds of those with the most vested interest in the current institutions? I work as a personal assistant/life coach for a 1%-er. and I'd like to get him on board with investing locally.
Grant L.	there has been much progress in Sustainability - eg green energy
Stephen F.	Tony -- where are you locate?
Tony B.	get your 1%er to read the book Born On Third Base
Katie Mae S.	Thanks Tony
Richard S.	is capitalism the problem????

Richard L.	Yes, I'm also interested in our speakers addressing Katie Conlon's question.
Tony B.	I'm live near Philadelphia, PA, USA
Stephen F.	ty
Laura R.	That's great to know, thank you!
Stephen F.	is your sense that business people on the right are intersted in building local economies,? or just their local economy?
Katie C.	but if businesses are built on the perpetual growth model, can we we get 'there' through these institutions that perpetuate and are fundamentally built on destruction of the environment and systems of inequality?
Tony B.	WE must all start at home, Stephen.
Katie Mae S.	I can relate to sounding overly optimistic when I talk about these things! Where can we find more proof that things are working?
John D.	Does anyone (besides me) have doubts that the United States will survive as a nation into the next century? Could the collective crises in energy, economics and politics lead to the collapse of the US as a governmental entity?
Tom J.	Any thoughts on what is the root cause of so many of us following or allowing "leaders" such as Trump, Clinton, and the elites that fuel their hierarchies? It seems to me that the root is a world view that has gone from not allowing psychopaths such as these to play a major role in governing communities to giving them full control. How do we wake folks up to stop believing in economic growth, or technological fundamentalism?
Local Futures /ISEC	To address Stephen Filler's point about keeping in touch: Maybe anyone who's interested in sharing their email/contact info with others on this call could send an email to <a href="mailto:outreach@localfutures.org">outreach@localfutures.org</a> , and then I can put you all in touch with each other?
Richard S.	do not have children... no future
Tom J.	Any thoughts on what is the root cause of so many of us following or allowing "leaders" such as Trump, Clinton, and the elites that fuel their hierarchies? It seems to me that the root is a world view that has gone from not allowing psychopaths such as these to play a major role in governing communities to giving them full control. How do we wake folks up to stop believing in economic growth, or technological fundamentalism?

John D.	And if this collapse occurs, how can we prepare for it? What would be the most crucial costs and adaptations?
Local Futures /ISEC	So many good questions here...thank you all for being such an engaged audience :)
David W.	This is intended as a question for Helena and Richard. I hope they will address this issue: Inner Transitions is what I think is most important. The ability to determine which "information" one acts form. I'm working on 'Compassion' as the basis of decision making, and how we conduct our meetings and gatherings - starting with opening meetings and gatherings with some sort of "Compassion Contemplation" to set the ground of going forward.
Richard L.	I believe one important hurdle is to get money out of politics! We need to support the movement to amend the U.S. constitution so that money does not equal speech and corporations are not people!
Tom J.	Any thoughts on what is the root cause of so many of us following or allowing "leaders" like Trump (or Clinton) and the elites that power their leadership and hierarchies to exist? It seems to me that the root cause is a world view that has gone from not allowing psychopaths such as these to play a major role in governing communitites to giving them full control. In other words how do we go about waking folks up to stop believing in economic growth, or technological fundamentalism, dictated by fools?
Grant L.	I think that the population needs to rise up and demand better from politicians
Robert M.	Maybe the Trump presidency will be a good thing in that it will bring on a hitherto unseen coalition of all those groups and individuals offended by his values and ideals.
Richard S.	mass protest....resistance....civil disobedience....sabatage
Katie Mae S.	yes, Robert. A catalyst. I've had to think of it as such in order to keep myself sane.
Stephen F.	There's a FB group of 130,000 lawyers of the left that formed after the election . In response to my post, I'm attempting to organize about 30-40 lawyers who expressed interested in working locally to help build sustainable economies. If anyone has ideas of how this group can be plugged into a pre-existing group, I'd be eager to hear!
Robert M.	Maybe some sort of civil disobedience, but peaceful.
Local Futures /ISEC	Oh, I forgot to mention before: We'll send a chat transcript to everyone at the same time we send the recording, so you can refer back to this

	discussion
Local Futures /ISEC	just FYI :)
Carlos C.	any thoughts on world views and mentall models? many people are fine with fasism, pollution etc as long theres money or resources handy.
Tony B.	This time the small people can talk to the whole world through the internet, this was never possible before. I'm a humble handyman and 1/2 a million people have looked at my Youtube channel. Amazing.
Laura R.	My Dad was one of those farmers who protested trade and was pepper sprayed by police on the front lines at a world trade event at the age of 77... an inspiration to me, and he clearly understood these issues 20 years ago...
Robert M.	The likes of Trump argue for a distorted anarchy just as long as it falls in favour of their profits.
Kathy J.	thank you..in very rural ohio, off-grid...really appreciate this at-distance tech as we transition away from fossil fuel
Ben R.	Do you have good examples of strong urban-local alliances?
David W.	Please address the Inner Transition
David W.	That was cut off
Stephen F.	Richard -- what kind of aliances do you suggest? are there models for htis? building more farmers markets, CSAs.. is this an opportunity to increase that? What can be done outside of AG?
Kathy J.	true cost accounting... greenies still don't want to pay a farmer living wage...seems out of touch with reality on the ground in rural america
David W.	I'm doing pretty much ALL to the outer work being talked about, But Inner Transition seems to me to be the fulcurm - the real pint to make the most change.
Suzanne R.	I'm wondering if Helena can return to the comment she was about to make about interiority and the role of consciousness...
Local Futures /ISEC	yeah we'll get to that :)
Steve P.	Kathy, I disagree. At the farmers markets in Maine local farmers are doing well, especially organic farmers.
David W.	THANKS!
Kathy J.	intra/interpersonal reskilling...communication, decision making, group process, teamwork
Katie Mae S.	Local farmers are doing ok in Michigan, too. None of them are getting

	rich, but they're doing ok and growing!
Grant L.	I think that this will help mobilize the NGO sector
Steve P.	Here in Brunswick, Maine we have several winter farmers markets where farmers can sell storage crops and value-added products.
Katie C.	Here are Micah White's (founder of occupy) thoughts on merging with the rural and transitioning power in the US: <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/nov/14/protests-donald-trump-democracy-party">https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/nov/14/protests-donald-trump-democracy-party</a>
Tony B.	REcent report about Organic Hotspots from Penn State very good about how it affects local economy
Kathy J.	we have a robust farmers market, produce auction... farmers can't account for their time or they realize they're only making \$0.50 hour. i am a farmer, collaborative network, senior member of farmers market. always ask folks to tip their farmers as they still aren't making a living wage.
Anja L.	Hi, it would be good to cover some more questions
John D.	How can we get these issues into the so-called mainstream media? Right now it feels like we're a very small, isolated group talking to ourselves.
Michael H.	In Portland Oregon, there are many local farmers and farmers markets, but it is still very difficult for many to make a living at it.
Steve P.	Kathy, where are you? Which state?
Kathy J.	ohio
Steve P.	Hmm. I don't know why there's a difference. Several of the farmers I know are doing okay by selling via their own CSA and the farmers markets in town. I've also been doing a lot of local investing, giving them low-interest loans with interest paid in their own farm product.
Steve P.	Meaning, I understand what you're saying, but I don't know why farmers are doing well in Maine, not in Ohio, selling at farmers markets. I'm sorry to hear your pain.
Steven G.	Changing regulations would help expand local food movement. Rules against raw milk, on-farm slaughter, etc.
Anja L.	You can find different succesful localistion examples here in this online Planet Local Series (health, local businesses and investment, culture, community rights, as well as food and farming): <a href="http://www.localfutures.org/programs/global-to-local/planet-local/">http://www.localfutures.org/programs/global-to-local/planet-local/</a>

Caleb S.	Understanding the economic stress and declining land value in rural areas, as Richard mentions, is key. I split my time between NYC and rural PA. Understanding the decline in land value goes a long way toward understanding why almost all of PA neighbors leased land to fracking companies in 2009.
A. Stoll	Hmm, local finance looks to be confirmed as quite meaningful :)
Anja L.	You can also download for free, this localisation booklet: <a href="http://www.localfutures.org/wp-content/uploads/Localization-Booklet-download.pdf">http://www.localfutures.org/wp-content/uploads/Localization-Booklet-download.pdf</a>
Steve P.	I encourage folks to contact their local farmers to offer financial loans, at low interest rates, paid in the products you'd buy from those farmers anyway. As an investor, you're getting the same products you'd buy anyway, and as a farmer, you're getting inexpensive funds with interest paid in your farm produce. Low risk, decent investment, helps everyone, keeps you money in your own community.
Tony B.	Media transition town in PA just did a community buy on solar installations on roofs, very successful and the price kept falling due to many people buying in
Stephen F.	new CCA in Westchester County NY, and NYS just enabled it statewide!
Laura R.	Think it depends on the area regarding success of farmers and farmers markets. My family farm was a pick-your-own operation outside a major urban area, but people argued about the cost of the produce on a daily basis and tried to bargain their way out of paying... many family farms in Canada have disappeared in the last 50 years and much of the ag land has been bought up for development or taken over by factory farms or even multinationals... there is a small resurgence of local and small farms across the country, but a lot of those are 'hobby' businesses... we do not have the same protections or subsidies that occur in the U.S.
Caleb S.	Yes Richard but isn't land *ownership* (communal or private) key to renewable development? And efficiency as we transition from fossil fuels?
Steve P.	Laura, would a local CSA model work better?
Tom J.	Can you speak about the need to "powerdown" and consume down, way down. Sometimes it sounds like all we need to do is localize all we do now and everything will be fine. Seems the reality is that we need to really change our lifestyles bigtime and scale back big time, then perhaps local will become possible.

Laura R.	In Canada, farmers are selling their land to developers...the best farmland in the country is now buried under subdivisions in the Greater Toronto Area...
Tony B.	Conserve energy with R40 walls, ceilings and floors, very simple, we'll never need to build another powerstation
Barbara T.	Tom J that is a good point. I think a lot of "greenies" approach localization that way, having reduced somewhat their consumption already. The two go hand in hand, I wonder if it matters which comes first.
Caleb S.	I'm concerned that too rosy a picture is being painted of Trump voters. Do we really think they are all small farmers struggling to sell produce? I think its much more likely that they are service workers shopping at walmart.
David W.	Tom Jablonski, I agree. We need a thorough look at that the involves a profound search for what is truly sustainable.
Caleb S.	I'm not sure that building alliances with every small farmer will be enough.
Caleb S.	Union jobs, clean power jobs, and more jobs, housing security seem more important.
David W.	And that needs to include piloting examples of what can work in actuality. How would we make the things in our society? What would we make if we were making them locally?
Laura R.	Thanks Steve Prescott, there are local CSAs in some areas, but distribution remains a huge issue because of our large geography and small population! Which should make these issues easier, but somehow, unfortunately, makes people more competitive, not less.
Caleb S.	all these cam/need to be local
Caleb S.	*can*
Anja L.	I would also recommend that everybody take a look at ReEconomy.org - which has been started by Transition Group, Totnes. They have some good ideas that can be copied. For example, once a year in Totnes, they run a local investment "market day" dragon day style
David W.	Yes, Anja!
Anja L.	ups, meant to say Dragon's Den style... (British TV programme)
David W.	We have Dragon's Den here in Canada too.
Sandra I.	This has been very, very helpful! Thank you. (I must run to a local

	meeting on social justice!)
Anja L.	bye Sandra. Great you had time to join
Local Futures /ISEC	Thanks for being here, Sandra!
Grant L.	voting for Trump was for some a political grenade
Anja L.	Aah David. This is all new to me. Have no TV.
David W.	Can there be a sharing with the participants of all the Chat? It includes lots of great links, and more!
Tony B.	Everyone knows that something isn't right with the world and the politicians have not had this very conversation to help us design our way into the future
Local Futures /ISEC	Yes, David, We'll send the chat transcript to everyone along with the video recording link
David W.	Deep Gratitude.
Steve P.	If anyone wants to hear more about how I've done local investments with several local farmers -- with "interest" paid in farm produce -- please let me know and I'd be happy to explain. <a href="mailto:stephenprescott@yahoo.com">stephenprescott@yahoo.com</a>
Tom J.	How do we wake folks up to stop believing in economic growth, or technological fundamentalism, and learn to think critically?
Anja L.	Thanks Stephen. I wouldlike to hear about this. Will write to you.
Stephen F.	Steve --lets connect I'm on board of localfarmfund.com <a href="mailto:stephenfiller@gmail.com">stephenfiller@gmail.com</a>
Grant L.	a stronger, better organized and financed NGI sector will help
Grant L.	NGO
John D.	Civilizations in crisis can take basically one of two options: strike out in imperialistic fashion to seize the resources of others; or devolve into civil war in order to re-structure the society. I rather doubt that Trump is prepared to pursue the latter, so the former will likely be his default position.
Susan P.	I recently learned about Raw Materials Economics and believe that it would be very helpful to learn by the local movement. NORMECONOMICS.ORG The basis of the knowledge is 'all wealth comes from the land' and it includes the history of agriculture and free trade.
David W.	When the impending food (and other) emergency hits harder and

	harder, we will need ever more the attitude of Inner Compassion. This is not to be dismissed as an escape from action, rather it is the fundamental guide to do action that is truly right!
John D.	...in spite of his pronouncements to the contrary.
Tony B.	Land conservation non-profits are leasing land to young farmers here in PA, USA
David W.	Maintaining civility can even be a basic challenge.
Steve P.	Anja, Stephen Filler, and others, looking forward to hearing from you!
David W.	Particularly in societies that have been encouraged to be more aggressive and angry.
Laura R.	Excellent response to my question around protectionism Helena - thanks!
Stephen F.	is anyone doing a podcast on localism?
Julie T.	Why Trump?rrrI told a gay friend on Dec 12 that i felt called to sit on the steps of the capitol until someone took away Putin's electing of Trump. He astonished me by saying "well, at least she didn't win." I said, Why do you say that? He said, "Because she believes in abortion until the moment of birth."Ⓢ I said, "I don't think that is true."Ⓢ He thinks it is absolutely true. I told him i would look into it; i think it is a true exaggeration but in any case he and many of my deeply loving and spiritual friends voted for Trump for that ONE reason. Oh if only Hillary had echoed Bill by saying "Abortion should be safe, legal and RARE." Instead, at her rallies, when she said "a woman's right to choose", she got huge cheers - which must have reinforced the belief that she just adores abortion. Dems must try to win the millions of Dems who left over this issue. (PS - Please see feministsforlife.org)
Laura R.	When discussing the media, it's important to support local there as well - especially any independents in the community... they need our support...
David W.	Laura, what did she say that you found so excellent?
Katie Mae S.	I'm feeling quite inspired, and I have some new ideas of things I might be able to do locally, so thank you so much! I really appreciate you taking the time to put this on!
Grant L.	thanks to the speakers for their time and knowledge
Julie T.	Julie Tamler - that was really by me, Judith Reichsman, not Julie
Julie T.	the one about abortion, Judith not Julie, thanks

Katie C.	Thank you so much, looking forward to keeping these discussions and actions going!
Local Futures /ISEC	<a href="mailto:outreach@localfutures.org">outreach@localfutures.org</a>
Anja L.	With respect to raising awareness and getting a debate going, Do look at the free DIY Economics of Happiness Workshop toolkit. Any one can do it. <a href="http://www.localfutures.org/programs/the-economics-of-happiness/diy-workshop/">http://www.localfutures.org/programs/the-economics-of-happiness/diy-workshop/</a>
A. Stoll	Thanks for all the harmonizing caring, connecting & sharing efforts, all!
Anja L.	thanks