



LIVE WIRE

Global Warming Wiping out the Polar Bear Population

The world polar bear population is around 20000 to 25000. About two-thirds of these animals live in Canada. Although the polar bear is not officially classified as at risk the population in Hudson Bay is rapidly declining due to melting ice. The biggest threat to polar bears today is global warming. Polar bears need ice to stalk their main source of food-seals. Rising global temperatures have created a shorter hunting season for the bears. As a result some starve to death. Research from the WWF Canada shows that in 2004 there were close to 935 polar bears in western Hudson Bay, down from 1200 in 1987. Peter Ewins, the species conservation director for WWF Canada predicts that by 2050 the polar bear population will be extinct.

Gambling Reasons

Most youth reported that they gambled for entertainment but a large proportion also gambled for monetary reasons, such as needing money or wanting to win back losses. Here are the stats:
Wanted to have fun: 89.2%
Hoped to win money: 70.3%
Wanted to take risks: 28.4%
Wanted to get a rush or feel excited: 24.1%
Needed money: 20.7%
Wanted to win back lost money: 15.3%
Saw gambling on TV and thought it looked fun/cool/interesting: 8.6%

Plants in the House

Did you know that having plants around your house can cut indoor air pollutants by more than half? English ivy and peace lilies absorb toxic gases such as formaldehyde and benzene. Plants can also help keep your home cool in the summer and insulated in the winter. Who knew?

Almost 60% of youth are optimistic about solving environmental issues in their lifetime; 77% of adults think that youth can make a positive difference.

Culture Shock

Peterborough Youth Council Presents "CULTURE SHOCK" Wednesday, May 16, 2007. Open house from 6pm-7pm. Award Ceremony to take place between 7 and 7:30pm at the Peterborough Public Library Auditorium. Applications are available online at www.ptboyouth.com, www.recreationpeterborough.ca or at City hall, Recreation Division. Application deadline is Monday, May 7, 2007. For further information call 742-7777 ext. 1805.

A lot of Heart

Useless information about your heart:
 -The human heart beats roughly 35 million times a year
 -The human heart weighs less than a pound.
 -Women's hearts beat faster than a man's.

-Scientists have discovered that the longer the ring finger is in boys the less chance they have of having a heart attack.

Little Changes, Big Differences

-If every household in Canada replaced 1 roll of virgin toilet paper with 1 roll of recycled toilet paper we could save thousands of trees for more highly valued uses.
 -Compost is nature's way of recycling. It's a natural process that turns used materials back into soil for growing trees and plants.
 -Washing rags in hot water and detergent can consume more energy and create more pollution than are needed to make their alternative--a recycled paper towel.
 -The manufacturing process used to bleach paper products contributes to the population of Canadian rivers.
 -80-90% of the energy we expend in washing our clothes is merely from heating the water. Washing laundry in hot water increases our reliance on Canada's coal-fired generation stations which contribute to greenhouse gas emissions.
 -More than 90 000 tons of hazardous solvents from common household products are released into Canada's air and water each year.
 -By using products with more environmentally friendly ingredients, we will contribute less to the development of harmful by products that often end up in our rivers and lakes.

Brought to you by the City of Peterborough, Recreation Division in conjunction with the Peterborough Youth Council.
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