



MON, APR 19, 4:30PM  
SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

# Miranda Baksh

 **Co-Founder/CEO  
of Community  
Climate Council**

 **Environmental  
Educator**

 **Climate Action  
Catalyst**

AGES 14-24 - ALL ARE WELCOME  
ZOOM LINK IN BIO

Miranda Baksh is an environmental educator, climate action catalyst, and York University's top 30 changemakers under 30 making a difference in the world.

She obtained her Masters in Environmental Studies from York University and is CEO & co-founder of The Community Climate Council.




Her passion for biodiversity conservation led her to study EcoHealth and EcoDRR in Costa Rica and Belize which brought her closer to local climate activism.

She believes that youth will drive the solutions towards climate action and community resilience.

**“When you reach the top of the mountain, you may be uncertain as to which way you want to go next. If you follow your passion you will find the motivation that will lead your way.”**

**- Miranda Baksh**

## **1) BGYN MEETING | GUEST SPEAKER: MIRANDA BAKSH | KEY TAKEAWAYS:**

-  Follow Miranda on Instagram: [@wildandfree.mb](https://www.instagram.com/wildandfree.mb) + The Community Climate Council: [@peelclimatecouncil](https://www.instagram.com/peelclimatecouncil)
-  Miranda's studies at York University took her to Costa Rica where she studied the effects of human actions on the different species of animals she researched. When Miranda was in Belize she researched a local community that was heavily impacted by coastal erosion and rising sea levels, she noticed that this community was not polluting much, however, they were heavily impacted by the pollution of others.
-  After this, Miranda became motivated in climate justice, eventually leading to a career as a Catalyst, where she, along with other environmentally motivated women, **co-founded the [Peel Climate Council](https://www.peelclimatecouncil.com).**

- 🌱 The Peel Climate Council was founded on the desire to create a platform for youth and environmentally motivated individuals alike to make positive changes in the environment. (Climate Literacy, Community Engagement, Climate Advocacy)
- 🌱 They have a TON of **very helpful resources** on their website including a user-friendly [Guide to Community Climate Action for Youth](#)
- 🌱 Miranda had her first big event organizing experience leading a climate march in Peel & was blown away that it was attended by about 250 people (mostly youth). She later realized that if you give someone a space, time, and date they will use their own passion and will find their own motivation to make a positive change.
- 🌱 **Did you know?** You are able to attend City Council meetings at your local city hall (now digitally) and delegate for causes you believe in? You can make your voice heard to important members of the municipal government to help make profound changes. Delegations are free and they are still happening during the pandemic. You simply look up the upcoming council meetings, check out the agendas for anything with issues you are passionate about and pick a date that you think would work best - sign up, prepare a brief presentation and have some questions prepared to ask your counselors. (info for Burlington [here](#). For those in other municipalities, it should be on your city's official website)
- 🌱 **Miranda's tips for successful delegating:** Firstly, be prepared to answer 'call to action' questions from the city councillors. This could include the positive changes you hope to be made in your community. Next, don't get nervous. Remember that the city counselors are just human. They aren't always experts, however, counselors really notice when youth attend delegations and make their voices heard. If no youth are involved in the discussions, counselors simply exclude them from the picture thinking that they don't care, when in fact, many do. Some counsellors already want to get involved in helping the planet, they are just waiting for someone to do it with them.
- 🌱 **Tip:** Stay tuned in to local environmental organizations like [MiltonGreen](#), [OakvilleGreen](#), [Environment Hamilton](#) (& others) as they will often alert their following to important issues that require attention
- 🌱 **Anyone can watch delegations.** Even if you do not want to speak, you can still **attend for free**. Miranda says they can get **quite interesting** at times & encourages everyone to attend one.
- 🌱 Miranda often resisted the title of activist before she realizes that anyone that cares about and advocates for a cause in which they believe in is considered an activist.

- 🌱 **The environmental crisis is a health issue.** If we brand it as a health issue you may be able to **attract more people** as everyone cares about their health. After all, **we are saving ourselves.**
  
- 🌱 **Think:** When advocating for climate justice, **10%** of the public are interested in **organizing the change**, **80%** is the group that's **open to change**. **10%** is the group that's **not interested in making a change**. It is best to focus on the 80% of the group that wants to make the change, as they are the ones who will follow through.
  
- 🌱 **Tips and Tricks for budding youth activists & how to speak with your councilors:**  
<https://www.communityclimatecouncil.org/resource-guide-youth>
  
- 🌱 **BurlingtonGreen Tips to Amplify Your Voice Page:** <https://www.burlingtongreen.org/programs/community-eco-network/speak-up-tips/>
  
- 🌱 **CliMate** - app from DSF on talking with climate deniers (but save your energy!)