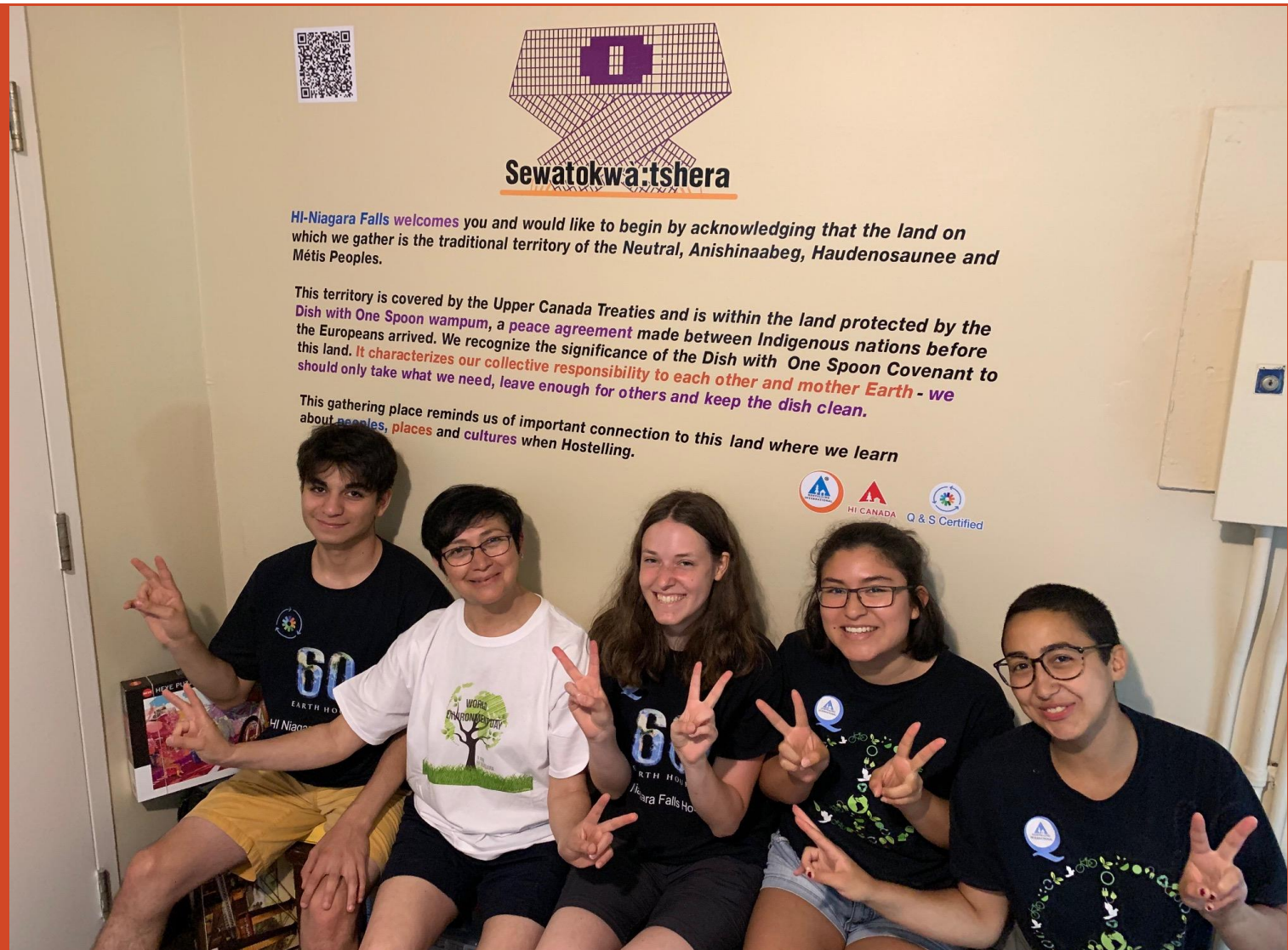


# Peoples, Places and Cultures

Hostelling International  
International Youth Hostel  
Federation



Presented by: Salomé Torres  
22 January 2020

*"It is impossible to squeeze the limitless world into a crowded classroom. So the school must go out into the world."*

*Richard Schirrmann*



## History of Hosteling International



**1909** German school teacher Richard Schirrmann sees the need for overnight accommodation for school children so that they have a place to stay during class trips.

**1912** Schirrmann sets up the first youth hostel in his own school in Altena, Westphalia. Soon after this it is replaced by a permanent hostel in Altena Castle. There are Youth Hostel Associations in 80 countries and 3.7 million of members.



# Two sisters one dream



First youth hostel at Bragg Creek, 1933  
(© GlenbowArchives, NA-2468-33)

Catherine Barclay brought the concept of youth hostels home to Canada from Europe. Her sister, school teacher Mary Belle Barclay executed the idea. In 1933 the Barclay sisters established Canada's first hostel in Bragg Creek, west of Calgary. Guests paid 25 cents a night and slept in a tent. From those humble beginnings Mary launched the Canadian Youth Hostel Association (now Hostelling International Canada) a network of 56 hostels across Canada and part of an international association stretching around the world.

**Source:** Recognition Statute: Historic Sites and Monuments Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. H-4)



# HI-Niagara Falls Hostel



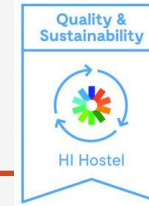
- . Since 1996 HI-Niagara Falls Hostel is at 4549 Cataract Ave. in an 1885 old building
- . 2 blocks from Bus and Train Station Niagara Falls
- Since 2014
- . There are 12 dormitories and 7 private rooms
- . Maximum capacity 74 people
- . **Services:** Travelers' kitchen and dining room, Game's Room, Computer's room, Terrace, Garden and BBQ, Parking lot for up to 15 cars, 12 bikes and room for bikes.

“Why it's simply impossible!

Alice: Why, don't you mean impossible?

Door: No, I do mean impossible. (*chuckles*) Nothing's impossible!” [Lewis Carroll](#)

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The hostel was put on sale in 2013. In 2014 Salomé and Joël bought it. Why was the hostel put on sale? The hostel did not seem to be viable. Some of the reasons (perceptions) were:

1. People did [day trips](#) to Niagara and stayed in Toronto as major gateway

Niagara did not seem to be convenient for travelers to come to a hostel for a longer stay

2. Niagara does not provide sufficient places of interest compared to Toronto

Youth market is small

3. Niagara Falls is not attractive enough for youth

Does not have the type of entertainment that Toronto

4. Niagara is economically depressed

International market has an impact in small cities

5. The hostel is in poor shape and is not well rated

The result of administrative and operational decisions

6. The location is not optimum and is not close to “The Falls” on the U.S. and Canadian sides

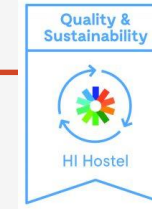
It is located 4 kms away, yet they are first sited at a 1.7kms distance

7. There are already two youth hostels and low budget accommodation

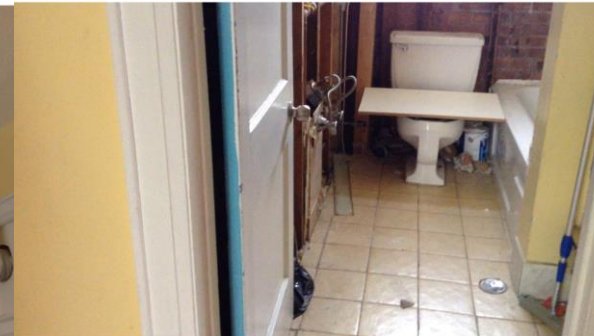
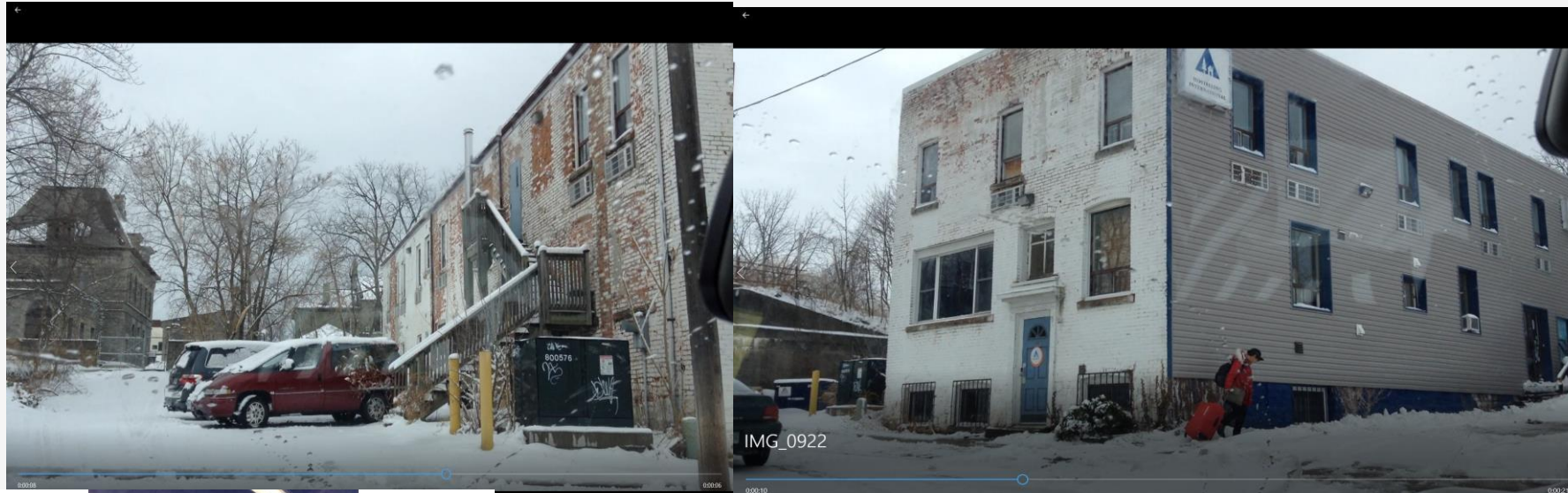
The two hostels closed between 2015 and 2016 once the HI was up and running under the new management model



*Notre mission : aider les gens, en particulier les jeunes, à mieux connaître les peuples, les lieux et les cultures par l'entremise de l'ajisme.*  
*Our mission: to help all, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of peoples, places and cultures through hosting.*



24 Feb 2014 This is what the backpackers couple who aspired to create a place for youth people from around the world to discover a new culture encountered





“If love is blind, then maybe a blind person that loves has a greater understanding of it.”

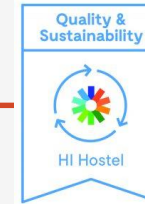
— Criss Jami, *Salomé: In Every Inch In Every Mile*

The Works (1<sup>st</sup> part): Façade, Roof, Grounds Clean-up, Attracting New Groups such as First Nations, Cheer Leaders Team, Kendo International Team, Solo Female Backpackers





# A New Business Model: Sustainable Tourism Starting Since 2014



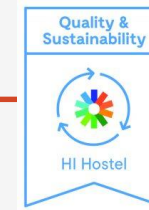
## Sustainable Tourism through Hostelling



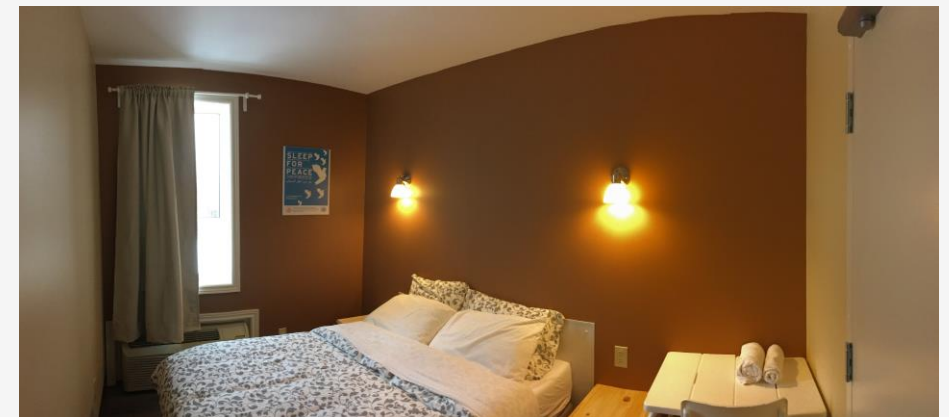
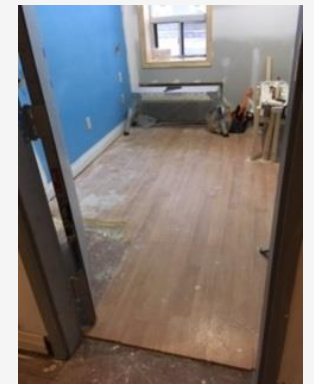
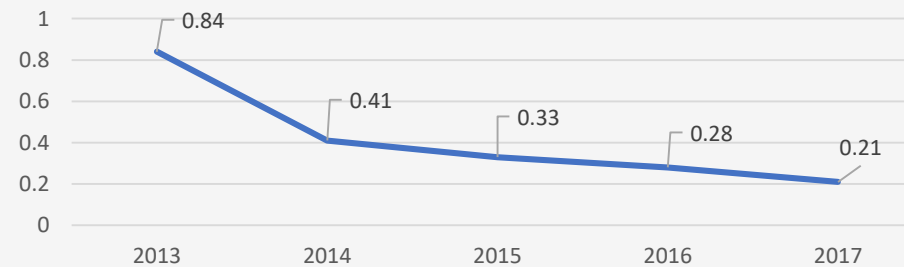


# "The best way to predict the future is to create it."

By Peter Drucker

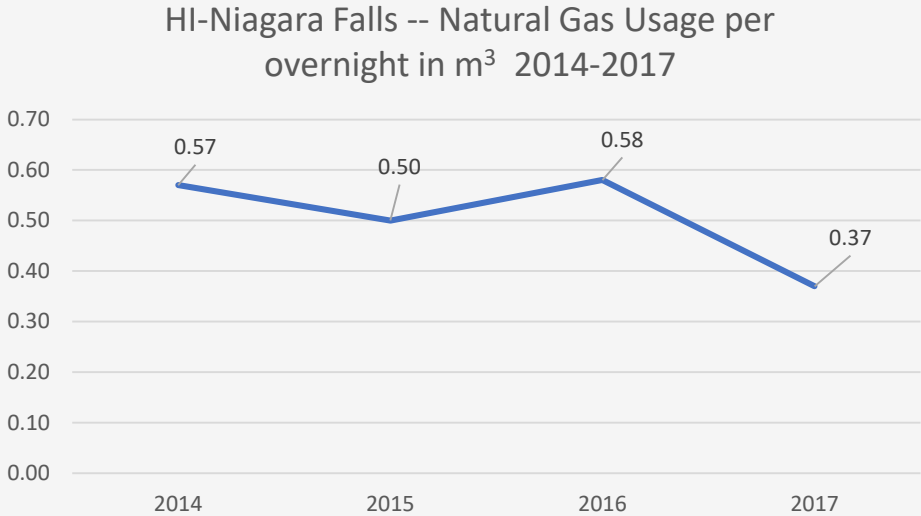


HI-Niagara Falls - Electrical Usage GJ/Overnight  
2013-2017 (energy-occupation consumption  
ratio, the lower the better performance)



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**Our mission:** to help all, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of peoples, places and cultures through hostelling.



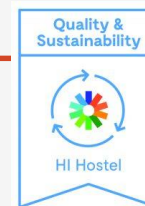
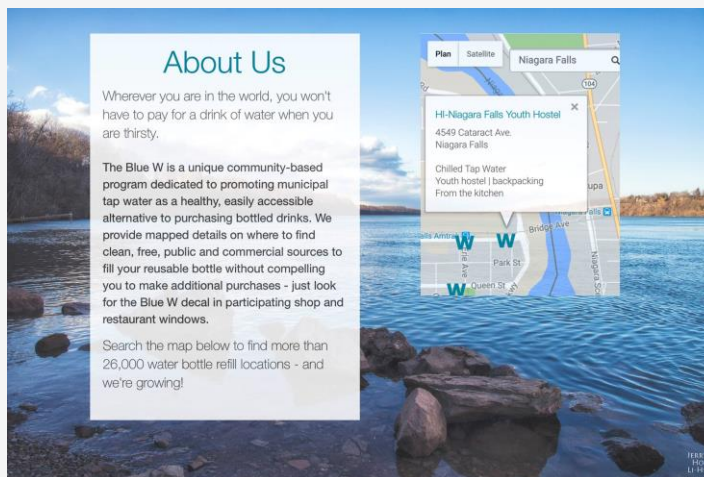


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- **Water usage improvement**

- 2014      1141 m<sup>3</sup> (0.174 m<sup>3</sup> per overnight)
- 
- 2015      1448 m<sup>3</sup> (0.174 m<sup>3</sup> per overnight)
- 
- 2016      1362 m<sup>3</sup> (0.161 m<sup>3</sup> per overnight)
- 
- 2017      1506 m<sup>3</sup> (0.160 m<sup>3</sup> per overnight)



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## Waste management improvement

2014: **weekly** garbage collection plus **limited** recycling program

2015: **weekly** garbage collection plus **expanded** recycling program

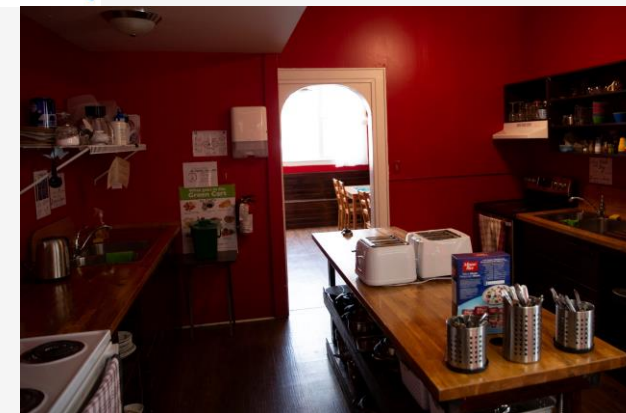
2016: **weekly** garbage collection plus **expanded** recycling program

2017: **Jan to June: weekly** garbage collection plus **expanded** recycling program

- **July to September: bi-weekly** garbage collection plus expanded recycling program
- **October to December: monthly** garbage collection plus **expanded** recycling program and **composting program**

2018: **Monthly** garbage collection + **Recycling and composting** program

2019: **Monthly** garbage collection (*the company doesn't allow us to have the service every 2 months.*) + **Recycling and composting** program





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**Our mission:** to help all, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of peoples, places and cultures through hosting.



**“Distance was a dangerous thing, she knew. Distance changed people.”**

— Rohinton Mistry, [A Fine Balance](#)

**OUR MISSION:** to help all, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of peoples, places and cultures through hosting.

**NOTRE MISSION:** Aider les gens, en particulier les jeunes, à mieux comprendre les peuples, les lieux et cultures

**SUSTAINABILITY – ECO-RESPONSABILITÉ**

- Turn off the lights and the AC when you leave the room.  
Eteignez la lumière et le climatiseur quand vous quittez la chambre.
- Help us conserve water with brief showers  
Aide nous à préserver l'eau avec des douches plus courtes
- Re-duce, Re-use, Re-paire & Re-cycle  
Ré-duit, Ré-utilise, Ré-pare & Re-cycle

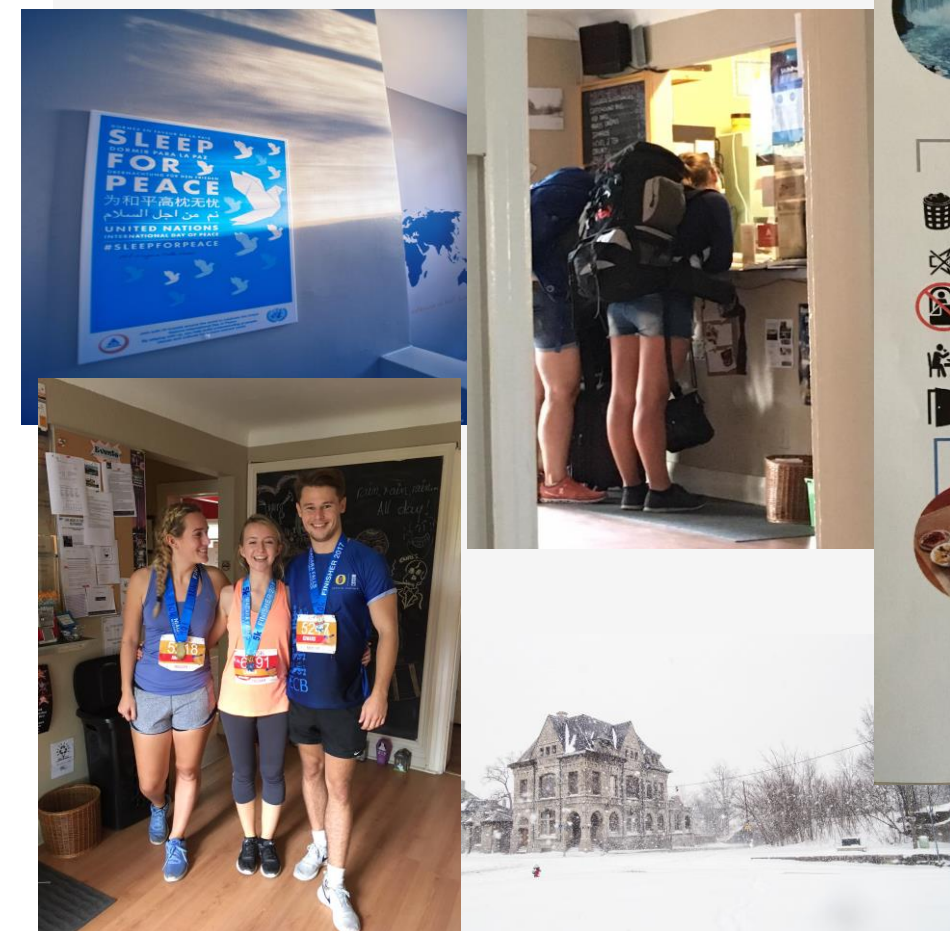
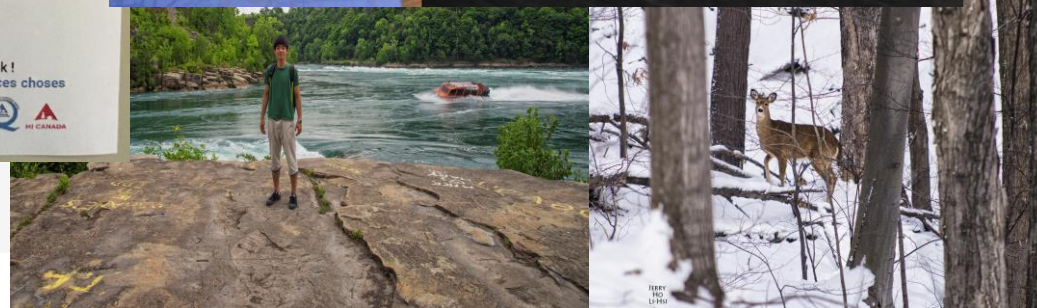
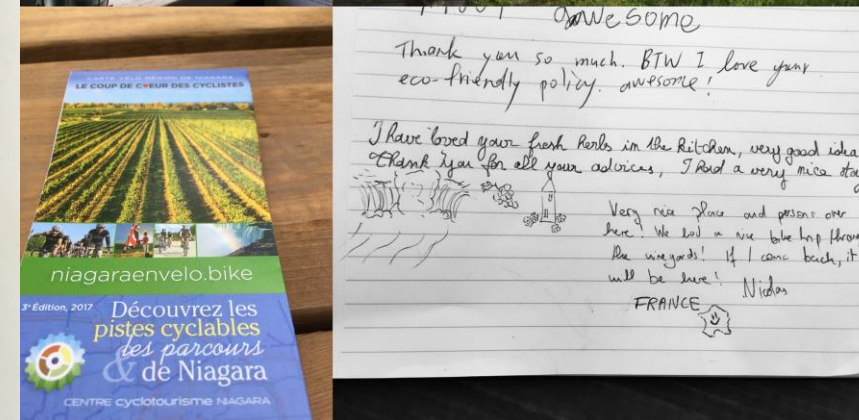
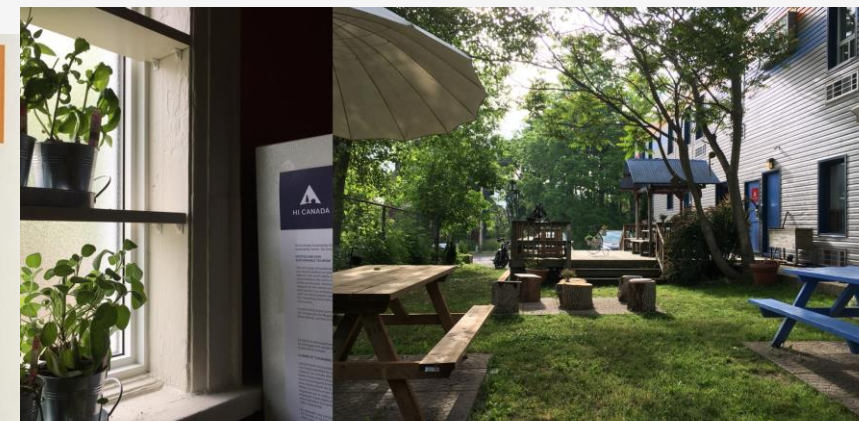
**IN YOUR ROOM – DANS VOTRE CHAMBRE**

- Check out is at 11 am; please bring your linen & your towel downstairs.  
Le jour du départ, nous vous prions de libérer la chambre avant 11h.
- Please keep noise to a minimum after 11 pm  
Veillez à garder le silence après 23h.
- Sleeping bags are not allowed.  
L'utilisation de sacs de couchage est interdite.
- To keep the sleeping rooms clean, avoid eating in the room:  
Pour garder ta chambre propre, mange uniquement dans les zones de l'auberge prévues à cet effet
- Help us reduce noise by closing the doors gently  
Aide nous à réduire le bruit en fermant calmement la porte

**HOSTEL SERVICES – SERVICES DE L'AUBERGE**

- You have free breakfast from 8:00 to 11:00 AM  
Prenez votre déjeuner gratuit de 8:00 à 11:00
- If you want some fun visit our basement; we have a pool table, TV and a fireplace!
- Si vous avez envie de vous amuser, notre sous-sol dispose d'une table de billard, d'une TV et d'un feu de foyer
- The hostel rents bikes.  
L'auberge loue des vélos.
- Laundry & Dryer available in the basement  
Machines à laver et sècheurs disponibles au sous-sol
- Do you need one of these? Please ask at the front desk!  
Demandez à l'accueil si vous avez besoin de l'une de ces choses

4549, Cataract Avenue, Niagara Falls, ON, L2E 3M2 / 905 357 0770





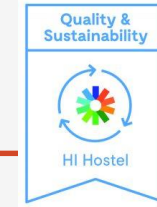
"No one can whistle a symphony. It takes a whole orchestra to play it." – H.E. Luccock

## Participating in local and international programs for a better World!





# Connecting people, places, and cultures



- <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/connecting-cultures-hi-niagara-falls/>



A space for you to make it  
your own



Come for a visit and a stay!  
Thank you



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