

**2014 Global Citizen Award Winner**



**What are some of the biggest challenges currently facing our global community?**

**What do you see as solutions?**

*We face a series of interconnected challenges - the looming climate crisis; the threat of food shortages worldwide; the loss of ecosystems on which human societies depend; the increasing control of key resources by unaccountable and powerful corporations; global poverty and debt; war and violence; chemical and radioactive pollution; the marginalization of indigenous people worldwide.*

*Solutions are ultimately political - in moving to a system where people matter more than profit, and happiness more than consumption. To do that we have to build a strong peoples' movement which is centred on honouring life, and which is prepared to make personal sacrifices in demanding policy action based on human values and restraint.*

**MARK BIGLAND-PRITCHARD** is an applied physicist and sustainable energy consultant, whose background includes engineering design, energy and environmental auditing, university-level teaching and policy development. He works for a better society with Climate Justice Saskatoon, the Committee for Future Generations, Osler Mennonite Church, and others. He combines his professional and activist concerns as principal researcher for Green Energy Project Saskatchewan.

Mark arrived in Saskatchewan in 2005 from England, where he had been active in opposing nuclear weapons, as a founder member of Molesworth Peace Camp, and as national coordinator of the Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament during the 1990s.

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**What does global citizenship mean to you?**

*A global citizen is someone who can look beyond the needs of their own community, their own country or their own ethnic group and feel a connection with their fellow human beings worldwide. That means solidarity, especially with those who are in poverty or otherwise suffering, and it means addressing human need ahead of ideological or racial differences.*

**What advice would you give to today's high-school graduates?**

*Don't look for an easy life - life is much more exciting if you spend it facing challenges. Don't hide from ugly truths - they will do you less damage if you face them head on. Work in cooperation with others - we can achieve so much more together than separately, and it's more fun anyway. Take time to enjoy the beauty of the world and its people. And cultivate love - it is the strongest force in the universe.*