



# *PNE Inspirations*

paradigmnouveauenterprises

SYNERGISTIC EMERGENCE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

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## *The Dawning of Our Time: A CEO's Experience of the Clinton Global Initiative*



***Our spotlight*** this issue shines on the “dawning of our time.”

Have you ever gotten up early to greet the day by watching the sunrise? No matter what has happened the previous day, when you meet a new day like this a sort of awe-some feeling arises within. Anne of Green Gables used to say, “Tomorrow’s a new day, with no mistakes in it.” This feeling is not to be confused with hope. Rather it is experienced more like warm inspiration with unlimited energy.

*Below is the report from Audrey James, Paradigm Nouveau’s CEO, on her experience at the Clinton Global Initiative in Manhattan, September 26-28, 2007:*

I took the red-eye (yes, I saw the sunrise) to be at the Sheraton in Manhattan Wednesday morning. Within the first hour climate change was the hot topic. Al Gore said to all of us CGI members, “**This is a planetary emergency. It’s time to look at this**

**unblinkingly, straight in the eye, and tell one another the truth about what we have to do.”** I saw a light metaphorically on the rise behind him, as Desmond Tutu and the entire CGI panel Bill Clinton assembled to open the conference looked on.

The light broke through when Bishop Tutu, who was speaking for peace and the oneness inherent in all religions, connected with Al Gore sitting right next to him. Al made the point that if we all pull together and address climate crisis, our other problems like poverty and war will begin to be resolved. The two of them seemed to **see** the same possible future breaking over the horizon that I saw, like the dawning of a new time. Our Time.

Two weeks later my vision was validated when Al Gore was awarded the Nobel *peace* prize for his work on *climate change*.



Tutu and Gore, taken from Audrey's iPhone on 9/26/07

The dawning of our time is at hand. No question about it. Polar caps are melting and some experts even speculate the northern cap will be gone completely during summertime in the near future. Oh yes, and how about global dimming ... there's a new one for everyone to get some understanding around.



In the climate change breakout session, *Redefining Business as Usual*, Ted Turner said, "We're going to have to get everyone to go along with this [emissions reduction plan] or we're not going to be here in 50 years." He also said that Americans are "under-informed" by our news media (including CNN that he founded). At the edge of the dawn will be new understandings as information is being made available, thus exposing brutal truths. When masses of people have right understanding, unprecedented societal shifts take place. It will seem like things

are getting darker, but the truth is they've been dark. Most people have not been paying attention, and as people wake up it will look like it just started to get dark. Scary!

In 2004, when I first started to wrap my mind around the magnitude of global warming, I felt consumed with sadness and despair. It was intolerable to live with such a sinking feeling, especially when the evidence was clearly mounting. Remember, scientists moved the doomsday clock forward last year. Yes ... waking up to the reality of global warming puts one in a very dark place.

Like all dark periods a dawning naturally follows.

More light broke through the horizon during a working session at the CGI. I heard statements like "the next gold is green" and business leaders around my table talk about how they need to plan for the transition of their coal-fired and nuclear plants to a new paradigm of energy. Everyone was clear business leaders have a responsibility to lead the way. Business was no longer primarily about keeping shareholders happy. Business is about "doing the right thing." I heard this kind of talk over and over again.

So, while the dawning is streaming through, it is up to us to wake up and meet it just like getting out of bed to see the sunrise.

In waking up, individually as well as collectively, our species will experience an emerging. *Our time* will not be like any other time in history. Until now we, as a civilization, have been living in the space created by past inventions and achievements, as well as disasters. *Our time* is one of unity. It will be through a unified effort on behalf of individuals, communities, businesses, and countries that human beings will meet the climate crisis at hand, and adapt. The climate crisis is not something to be fought because it's not winnable. It is adaptable.

This is the dawning of Our Time. Wake up and meet the dawn ...



New York City Sunrise

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***“This is the dawning of our time. I’ll say it one more time to emphasize the meaning of my rhyme.” --Michael Franti/Spearhead***

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