

## August 10 Guest Speaker—Sam Daley-Harris, Civic Courage



Just how powerful and influential is grassroots advocacy? Our guest this month, Sam Daley-Harris, will share examples of organized citizen lobbying that had a major impact on national policies and priorities. Sam is the founder and CEO of [Civic Courage](#), a non-profit that coaches organizations to improve the effectiveness of their advocacy work. In 1980, he founded RESULTS, an organization working to end hunger and poverty, which later became the model for Citizens' Climate Lobby. Sam is also the author of [Reclaiming Our Democracy: Healing the Break Between People and Government](#).

### CCL Canada July and August 2019 Actions at a glance:

*This summer, consider doing what floats your boat and savouring the planet. For example, you can focus on spending time in nature, making connections in your community that energize you, and minimizing social media time for balance and self care.*

1. As a group, review and reflect on [CCL's core values](#).
2. Publish letters to the editor using our Election 2019 LASER talks booklet coming out this Summer. Watch out for alerts for opportunities to respond to syndicated articles. Record your published media hits in the [field reports](#).
3. In preparation for Election 2019, attend barbeques and other events hosted by local riding associations to get to know the candidates in your upcoming events. Record any interactions as "meetings with MPs" in the [field reports](#).

**ONTARIO ACTION (NEW):** Look out for, promote and support a carbon pricing sticker campaign coming out on August 27. See below for important information.

**ONGOING:** Coordinate with GreenPAC and other like-minded organizations on [the 100 debates project](#), the largest debates event to ever take place in Canada. **NEW THIS MONTH:** You can use [CCL community](#) as a platform to connect with others. As part of your preparation, also research other debates that may take place during the election.

**NEB TRANSMOUNTAIN COMMENT:** For those wishing to comment online on your own behalf about climate impacts of the Transmountain Pipeline, [please go here](#). Because CCL is not a think tank, we rarely have made submissions under the CCL banner and only after consulting the entire group with our talking points and creating and editing them together. Please only submit on your own behalf and not under the CCL banner, even regionally. Given that it is summer time, and an election, it is not likely that we will have time to make a submission together. Thank you for your understanding.

CCL Calls in July	Date and Time	Call Options
<b>Canada:</b> This month, we will be focusing on our <a href="#">Election 2019 LASER Talks</a> booklet.	Option 1: <b>Thurs, Aug 8, 2019</b> , 6 pm PT/ 9 pm ET Option 2: <b>Fri, Aug 9, 2019</b> , 8 am PT / 11 am ET Option 3: <b>Mon, Aug 12, 2019</b> , 6 pm PT/ 9 pm ET  Just pick 1 to attend. <a href="#">Sign this doodler</a> to RSVP.	Uberconference Line (1-888-570-6238) or <a href="#">log in online for free</a> .
<b>CCL International:</b> Sam Daley-Harris	<b>Sat, Aug 10, 2019</b> , 10 am PT/ 1 pm ET	<a href="#">Zoom Room 2017201717</a> or call +1 877.369.0926, code: 2017 2017 17

## **ACTION 1: As a group, review and reflect on CCL's core values.**

Consider reading [the core values](#) out loud as a group and discuss the following questions for each:

1. How might I already embody this core value in my work with CCL?
2. How might I challenge myself to embody this core value in my work with CCL?

### **CCL's Core Values**

#### **What We Believe In**

Citizens' Climate Lobby is a non-profit, nonpartisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change. These core values guide our staff and volunteers along the way:

##### **Focus**

We are focused on what we see as the single most impactful solution to climate change — a national carbon fee and dividend. We know it will not solve the problem entirely, and appreciate the work that our friends in other groups are doing. So that we can be effective, we do not let ourselves get distracted by work that does not support our core purpose. After we accomplish our goal, we will tackle the next most impactful solution.

##### **Optimism**

We believe that people are good, and that democracy works. We are confident that our approach will work because we see progress. We stand for a solution, not in protest of other solutions. We don't expect perfection from ourselves or others; this is a process and we know that people can improve. Together, we are a community that offers one another comfort, support, and fun as we work.

##### **Relationships**

We take the most generous approach to other people as possible — appreciation, gratitude, and respect. We listen, we work to find common values, and we endeavor to understand our own biases. We are honest and firm. We know that there is a place for protest, but our approach is to build consensus — that's what will bring enduring change. That's why elected officials and their staff, no matter what their politics, say they are happy to see us — and mean it.

##### **Integrity**

We are prepared and do our research. We are always on time for meetings. Our approach is thoughtful & thorough. We consult experts and use data. We are open to new information; in fact we solicit opposing opinions. We refine our solutions to make them better. We follow up when we are asked. We keep on.

##### **Personal Power**

We use our voices to be heard. This simple act transforms us from spectators to engaged citizens, and it reveals the true nature of democracy to us. We are volunteer-driven — trusting volunteers to make important decisions, and to create and develop things that will be valued by Citizens' Climate Lobby.

##### **Being Nonpartisan**

Our group is open to all who are serious about solving climate change. You are welcome no matter where you live, what you wear, what you do for a living, or who you voted for in the last election. We work with elected officials and community leaders from across the political spectrum because we believe that everyone is a potential ally.

##### **Diversity**

We empower everyone in exercising their personal and political power regardless of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, ability or political affiliation. We seek out, support, and elevate people whose voices may not have been fully heard.

## **ACTION 2: Publish letters to the editor using our Election 2019 LASER talks booklet coming out this Summer. Watch out for alerts for opportunities to respond to syndicated articles. Record your published media hits in the field reports.**

To help you write letters to the editor, we will be releasing an Election 2019 LASER talks booklet this summer. Please note that there will be opportunities to provide feedback before the final version is released. You can also refer to our [March 2019 Action Sheets](#) and the "All Things Media" section of our [Volunteer Resources page](#) to learn more about writing letters to the editor.

Also, watch out for opportunities this summer to respond to syndicated articles. We will be sending out email alerts and provide training for people to respond to syndicated articles within 24 hours.

Remember to track your progress through [filling in field reports](#) for published media hits. If you need someone to teach you how, you can contact [Judy O'Leary](#), who has kindly agreed to be the point person for this.

## **ACTION 3: In preparation for Election 2019, attend barbeques and other events hosted by local riding associations to get to know the candidates in your upcoming events.**

This summer is a great opportunity to build relationships with and educate your local federal election candidates.

Remember to track your progress through filling in field reports. Please use [the form for filling in field reports for meeting minutes, which is here](#). If you need someone to teach you how, you can contact [Judy O'Leary](#), who has kindly agreed to be the point person for this.

## **ONTARIO ACTION (NEW): Look out for, promote and support a carbon pricing sticker campaign coming out on August 27**

Please keep the details of the pro-carbon pricing sticker campaign under wraps for now. The group that is running the campaign wants to make a splash when they release the details to the media. This will be later in August. Once they make the announcement, they'll be thrilled if we all spread the word via social media.

After the initial release, they are planning 2 days of action early in September. They'd like people to use their images to create stickers, t-shirts, posters or whatever you like, then, on the days of action, use/wear them. There will also be a website with more information. This will be dear to our hearts because it will likely be called Carbon Tax Works.

This is a well organized group. They put a lot of effort into finding messaging that works. You'll notice that not all the messages have the same tone but there's probably one or two to appeal to just about everybody. So please, until they give us the go-ahead, don't use or share the sticker file or the information about the campaign.

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## **LASER TALK 1: What Comes Next?**

In October 2018, CCL Canada achieved the impossible: the passage of a national carbon pricing policy that is quite similar to carbon fee and dividend, the carbon pricing policy that we have been lobbying for since 2010. We have been told by numerous politicians we were the reason the government chose carbon fee and dividend.

Volunteers have asked a logical question: what comes next? We now must defend this policy in our ridings across Canada guided by the [Five Levers of Political Will](#)<sup>1</sup> and [our Core Values](#)<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> "LASER TALK: The Five Levers of Political will | Citizens' Climate ...." 26 Apr. 2018, <https://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/laser-talk-citizens-climate-lobbys-five-levers-of-political-will/>. Accessed 11 Jul. 2019.

In our letters to the editor, social media interactions, and at town halls we will continue to stay focused on improving Canada's federal carbon pricing policy until that aforementioned federal carbon pricing policy is not at risk of being dismantled and is optimized. We will follow the main lobbying asks outlined in our [2019 Federal Leave Behind](#)<sup>3</sup> with the price rising past 2022 and enshrining science-based targets under national law being the highest priority items. The other three items (subsidies, other GHGs and border carbon adjustments) are important and could fall in place if we get science based targets enshrined under national law so are currently not CCL Canada's focus.

To avoid major traps, we must stay focused on the science and not the politics, pipelines or personalities and always remember that we are not "against" anything: we are for carbon fee and dividend.

## LASER TALK 2: 5 Levers of Political Will

These are the five core activities that all Citizens' Climate Lobby [chapters](#)<sup>4</sup> leverage to bring citizens into the political process and to ensure their contribution is constructive and makes more good possible. We call these activities the "levers of political will."

1. Lobbying: We train citizens how to lobby in support of our [Carbon Fee and Dividend proposal](#)<sup>5</sup> by building friendly relationships with our federally elected representatives.
2. Media relations: We train citizens how to engage with and influence the media. We write [letters to the editors and op-eds](#)<sup>6</sup>, meet with editorial boards and work to place stories in all forms of media.
3. Grassroots outreach: We recruit and educate the public on climate solutions, citizen advocacy and how to participate with one's government.
4. Grassroots outreach: We seek to educate, build partnerships with and gain the support of community leaders and non-governmental organizations, both nationally and locally.
5. Chapter development: It is through the growth and management of the [local CCL group/chapter](#)<sup>7</sup>, that it becomes possible to push on the other four levers for building political will.

## LASER TALK 3: Lessons from the Provincial Court Rulings

Courts in both Ontario and Saskatchewan have recently ruled that the federal government's backstop carbon pricing policy is constitutionally valid.

[In June 2019](#)<sup>8</sup>, the Ontario Court of Appeal ruled in a 4-1 decision that the federal government's carbon pricing plan, [The Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act](#)<sup>9</sup>, is within the federal government's constitutional power to legislate for "peace, order and good government."

"The need for a collective approach to a matter of national concern, and the risk of non-participation by one or more provinces, permits Canada to adopt minimum national standards to reduce GHG emissions," Justice George Strathy [wrote for the majority](#)<sup>10</sup>. "The charges imposed by the act are themselves constitutional. They are regulatory in nature and connected to the purposes of the act. **They are not taxes.**"

As for the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal ruling [in May 2019](#)<sup>11</sup>, lawyer Josh Ginsberg of Ecojustice [outlined in CCL](#)

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<sup>2</sup> "Core Values | Citizens' Climate Lobby." <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/about-ccl/values/>. Accessed 11 Jul. 2019.

<sup>3</sup> "LEAVE BEHIND: Our ask of the Federal Government – May 2019 ...." 7 May. 2019, <https://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/leave-behind-our-ask-of-the-federal-government-may-2019/>. Accessed 11 Jul. 2019.

<sup>4</sup> "Chapters | Citizens' Climate Lobby." <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/about-ccl/chapters/>. Accessed 11 Jul. 2019.

<sup>5</sup> "Carbon Fee and Dividend Policy and FAQs | Citizens' Climate Lobby." <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/carbon-fee-and-dividend/>. Accessed 11 Jul. 2019.

<sup>6</sup> "Published Media | Citizens' Climate Lobby." <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/published-media/>. Accessed 11 Jul. 2019.

<sup>7</sup> "Chapters | Citizens' Climate Lobby." <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/about-ccl/chapters/>. Accessed 11 Jul. 2019.

<sup>8</sup> "Ontario's top court set to rule on whether federal carbon tax is ... - CBC." 28 Jun. 2019, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/ontario-court-appeal-carbon-tax-ruling-1.5192914>. Accessed 11 Jul. 2019.

<sup>9</sup> "Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act - Laws.justice.gc.ca." <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/G-11.55/>. Accessed 1 Jul. 2019.

<sup>10</sup> "Ontario's top court set to rule on whether federal carbon tax is ... - CBC." 28 Jun. 2019, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/ontario-court-appeal-carbon-tax-ruling-1.5192914>. Accessed 1 Jul. 2019.

<sup>11</sup> "Federal carbon tax is constitutional: Saskatchewan ... - Global News." 3 May. 2019,

[Canada's 14th National Conference](#)<sup>12</sup> how the federal government's Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act was determined as constitutionally valid. Two key rulings were that the "GHG pricing is regarded as essential" and "climate change is doubtless an emergency in the sense that it presents a genuine threat to Canada."

## LASER TALK 4: Tracking Canada's Climate Action (2008 – 2018)

The Climate Action Tracker ([climateactiontracker.org](http://climateactiontracker.org)) provides an independent scientific analysis produced by three research organizations. It tracks progress towards the globally agreed aim of holding warming well below 2°C, and pursuing efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C. It also ranks countries on their performance.

The data on Climate Action Tracker from 2011-2015, when Canada was under the Conservatives, show that Canada's climate targets and actions were in the lowest category alongside the Russian Federation and Saudi Arabia.

According to data from Julie Gelfand, Canada's Commissioner of Environment and Sustainable Development (a division of Canada's Auditor General Office), [Canada's emissions](#) would have gone up significantly between 2008-2012 if it were not for the 2008 recession and actions of the provinces.

Between 2015-2016, the Liberal government began intensive consultations for the Pan Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change with the provinces, territories, civil society, businesses, industry and the people of Canada. Canada's ranking during those years were still at the very bottom. Then in 2017 we bumped into the next category and we are now in the middle of the pack. Meanwhile, for comparison, the USA under Donald Trump has dropped down into the lowest category with the Saudis and Russians.

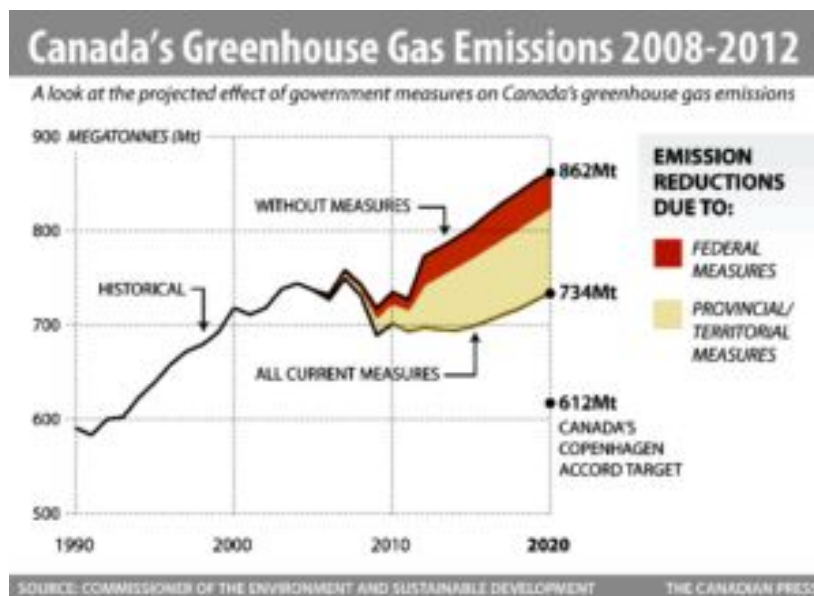


IMAGE SOURCE: CBC News (2014)

<https://globalnews.ca/news/5237439/federal-carbon-tax-constitutional-saskatchewan-court-appeal/>. Accessed 11 Jul. 2019.

<sup>12</sup> "MEDIA RELEASE: Citizen Lobbyists Bring Non Partisan Message to ...." 23 May. 2019,

<https://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/media-release-citizen-lobbyists-bring-solutions-to-solve-the-most-urgent-challenge/>. Accessed 1 Jul. 2019.