



Citizens' Climate Lobby Lobby Climatique des Citoyens

CCL Monthly Conference Call, Saturday, March 7, 2015

Groups meet at 9:45am PT / 12:45pm ET. The conference call starts at 10am PT / 1pm ET. The call lasts for a little over an hour and then the groups meet for another hour after that to plan actions.

Call-in number: 1-866-642-1665 Passcode: 440699#

Instructions: Sign on to the call at least five minutes before the start time. When you first join the call, announce your name, city, and how many people are in the room.



Guest Speaker: Lonnie Ellis, OFS, is the Associate Director of the Catholic Climate Covenant

Pope Francis will issue his encyclical dealing with climate change this year. What can we expect and what impact will it have in the Catholic community? To find out, we'll talk to Lonnie Ellis with the Catholic Climate Covenant, which emphasizes the need for Catholics to care for God's creation and to minimize the impact that climate change has on the poor.

March National Actions

- 1) In the month of March, submit questions online about carbon fee and dividend to be asked on the floor of the Canadian Senate via [Your Question Period](#) from the Liberal Senate Forum.
- 2) Get ready to table for events around Earth Day (Wednesday, April 22, 2015).

Optional Action: In the lead up to Election 2015, hone your social media strategy.

Special Ontario Actions:

- 1) Attend local climate change consultations for Ministry of Ontario's Environment and Climate Change and/or submit comments online.
- 2) Customize the suggested Letter to the Editor and submit it to your local paper.
- 3) Consider attending CCL Ontario's Climate Action and Strategy Day in Toronto, Saturday, March 21, 2015.

Upcoming events:

- 1) Saturday, April 11, 2015: [Act on Climate](#) March in Quebec City.
- 2) Sunday, May 31 to June 2, 2015: CCL Canada's training and lobbying session in Ottawa. Instructions will follow in April.
- 3) Sunday, June 21 to June 23, 2015: CCL [USA's International Conference in Washington](#).

Ongoing Actions: Pepper Parliament with postcards. Instructions were in the [February Action Sheets](#) and are [here as well](#). French postcards will be online by March 12, 2015.

Laser Talk (English and French)

Why do we want 100% revenue neutrality?

1. A 100 percent rebate ensures that two-thirds of Canadians will come out equal or ahead regarding the increase in energy costs. This calculation takes into account not just direct energy costs, but the pass-through that businesses will add to the cost of their products.
2. Members of Parliament who feel pressured to not increase taxes can still vote the right way.
3. If while steadily raising the price of carbon-based fuels we eliminate all energy subsidies, we allow the market to go to work without the government picking winners and losers. Venture capitalists, banks, and entrepreneurs seeing a predictable price signal will create breakthroughs in innovation that are in some cases unimaginable at this point. A carbon fee is the most efficient and direct way to send a meaningful price signal to the markets, better than subsidies but also better than alternatives such as government regulations or cap and trade.
4. Asking citizens to voluntarily curtail their use of fossil fuels when others may not choose to do so can be demoralizing and ineffective. To maintain public support for pricing carbon, citizens will need to receive a significant dividend.

Pourquoi souhaitons-nous une totale neutralité fiscale?

1. Un remboursement de 100 % fera en sorte que les deux tiers des Canadiens ne subiront pas d'effets ou seront avantagés par l'augmentation des coûts de l'énergie.
2. Les membres du Parlement qui subissent des pressions pour ne pas augmenter les taxes peuvent tout de même appuyer une telle mesure.
3. Si, tout en augmentant régulièrement le prix des combustibles à base de carbone, nous éliminons aussi les subventions pour le secteur énergétique, nous permettons au marché de se mettre au travail sans que le gouvernement ait à choisir des gagnants et des perdants. Les investisseurs en capital de risque, les banques et les entrepreneurs, en percevant des signaux prévisibles quant aux prix, seront à l'origine d'innovations jamais vues, inimaginables dans certains cas. Un prix pour le carbone constitue la manière la plus efficace et la plus directe d'envoyer un signal clair en matière de prix, mieux que le feraient des subventions ou des mesures de rechange telles qu'une réglementation gouvernementale ou un système de plafonnement et d'échange.
4. Demander aux citoyens de limiter volontairement leur utilisation de combustibles fossiles quand d'autres ne choisiront peut-être pas de le faire peut être aussi démoralisant qu'inefficace. Pour maintenir l'appui du public pour un tel prix, les citoyens devront en échange recevoir des dividendes appréciables.

TIP: In addition to using the [laser talks](#) to practice your CCL talking points, also use them draft letters to the editor.

March National Actions:

1) YOUR QUESTION PERIOD – from the Liberal Senate Forum

Did you know that online there is a Liberal Senate Forum where citizens can ask Senators to pose questions in the Canadian Senate? It is called “**Your Question Period**” and they want your “*voices and issues to be heard on the floor of the Senate.*” Communicate to the Senate Liberals your concerns about climate change and let them know that the government should consider the Carbon Fee and Dividend solution to the climate crisis. The Liberal Senate Forum website is inviting Canadians to share their concerns, and if your question is read in the House of Commons, they will mention your name. Let’s take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to express our concerns as well as present our solution! Work as group or alone and have fun coming up with and submitting insightful questions that will help lead Canada to the low carbon economy the next generation expects of us. Submit your questions [here](#). Submitting our questions in March increases the likelihood that they be read in the Senate circa Earth Day, which is a powerful [Overton Window](#).

2) Get ready to table for Earth Day events around April 22, 2015

Earth Day is coming up in April, which means lots of tabling opportunities. Tabling is a really effective method to both educate the public and recruit new CCL members. Plus, it’s a great way to practice your lobbying skills. Start looking around for opportunities to table at events. CCL has lots of [tabling resources](#) for your use. Please note we will be updating the resources in March and it should be ready in early April.

Optional Action:

3) Optimize your use of social media.

This is an **optional action** because at the very core of CCL is **relationship building** in the **physical world** not the **cyber world** with our MPs, local media and treasured volunteers - who just so happen to be the best volunteers on the planet!

Mark Reynolds reminds us that **CCL is not about mouse-click advocacy**. That is why this action is **optional**. If you are not in social media and don’t want to be, that’s totally fine.

In the lead-up to the 2015 federal election, social media can play a role in giving our MPs (and MLAs and MPPs) the courage to talk about carbon pricing, as well encouraging our local media to educate the public more facts about climate change and carbon pricing. Use Facebook and Twitter to engage with politicians and the media using the **CCL-way** of *respect and admiration of service*.

FACEBOOK: If you or your members have chosen to join Facebook, follow your MP (MPP/MLAs) and local media (newspapers or personalities) and cheer them on. As well, please be sure to like [CCL Canada’s](#) Facebook page. Check in regularly to get up-to-date information on the rapidly changing information on transitioning to a low carbon economy and stay-connected to what our *CCL peeps* across the planet are doing.

TWITTER: The same goes for Twitter as for Facebook. As well, Christine Penner-Polle is coordinating CCL Canada’s twitter gang. Email her at 350orbust@gmail.com with the names, email addresses, and twitter handles of group members who want to connect up.

CCL COMMUNITY: Join the CCL Community if you’d like to connect with others online.

If you or any of your group members have not registered in CCL Community social network and would like to join please follow these instructions:

1. If you have not already done so, register with your local CCL Group (as a member of YOUR CHAPTER) on our website here: <http://citizensclimatelobby.org/register-with-ccl/>
2. If you are not sure if you have registered in our database, contact reports@citizensclimatelobby.ca and we will check the CCL database.
3. After a couple days, check your email box for an email invitation from CCL Community. It could be filtered to Spam or Gmail's "Promotions" email file, so please check those locations for the Community invitation. If you get an email and are already in the CCL Community or you don't want to be in the CCL Community, please just delete the invitation email.
4. If you do not get a CCL Community invitation after a couple days, please send an email to communityregistration@citizensclimatelobby.org.
5. Accept the invitation, enter your profile info, write down your USERNAME and PASSWORD, and make a bookmark on your browser for community.citizensclimatelobby.org.
6. An "activation" email will be generated (check your inbox, spam or junk) and activate the account.
7. You can now log in!
8. If you would like, watch the "Getting Started with Community" video tutorial at the top of the FAQ page.
9. Join the Great White North (Canada's CCL Community group) and perhaps your local group too. <http://community.citizensclimatelobby.org/groups/canada/great-white-north/>
10. Please check out the FAQs and the CCLU from time to time for new info.

Special Canadian Instructions:

Each required field in the CCL Community has been customized for Canadians to join. Here are the specifics:

- CCL Group Name: Look for the first two initials of your province's name followed by your group. E.g. BC Vancouver, ON Red Lake, AB Calgary, QC Montreal or NS Halifax (PEI may not be in there as that is new).
- Congressional District: We are being organized under our provinces not our ridings - look for CAN-AB, CAN-BC, CAN-ON etc
- State/Province/Division: Our "provinces" are embedded alphabetically within the "states".

Upcoming Events

Act on Climate March in Quebec City on Saturday, April 11th.

The Council of the Federation, consisting of the 13 heads of Canada's provinces and territories, will meet in Quebec City on April 14th. Climate change will be the only item on their agenda. Inspired by this, a massive march is being organized by a Canada-wide climate coalition, spearheaded by Quebec's environmental movement and supported by organized labour, community and citizen groups, student associations, and Indigenous Nations and communities. You are invited to join this festive, family friendly event. For more information and to register, go to <http://act-on-climate.ca/>.

We are not certain at this time if solidarity events are being coordinated.

And if you go, take lots of pictures and send them to reports@citizensclimatelobby.ca

Special Actions for Ontario

Give feedback to the MOECC discussion paper

Anyone in Canada can do this first one actually – thus don't be shy

Ontario's Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change released its [Climate Change Discussion Paper](#) last month. This month, the Ministry continues to hold public consultations for feedback. Find the consultation nearest you and mark the date in your calendar (all of them are held from 6 – 8 pm):

Thunder Bay, March 3, Airplane Hotel and Conference Centre, 698 Arthur Street West,
Oshawa, March 3, Harmony Creek Golf Centre Clubhouse, 1000 Bloor Street East,
Sudbury, March 5, Steelworkers Hall Conference Room, 66 Brady Street,
Mississauga, March 5, BraeBen Golf Course Clubhouse, 5700 Terry Fox Way
Sarnia, March 10, Sarnia Library, 124 Christina Street South,
Ottawa, March 11, RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive,
London, March 12, Museum London, 21 Ridout Street North,
Kingston, March 12, The Tett Centre for Creativity and Learning, 370 King Street West,
Hamilton, March 16, McMaster Innovation Park, 175 Longwood Road South
Guelph, March 18, University of Guelph Arboretum, College Avenue East
Windsor, March 19, Art Gallery of Windsor, 401 Riverside Drive West
Kitchener-Waterloo, March 19, Kitchener Public Library, 85 Queen Street North

Whether you can attend or not, make sure that you give your [feedback online](#). This is an easy but very important way to make your voice heard on the question of pricing carbon.

Customize and submit this letter to the editor to your local paper:

Residents of <City or Region> Can Engage on Climate Change

In February Justin Trudeau clearly indicated that he will take a “medicare approach” to tackling climate change and let the provinces lead. As well, the Ontario Ministry of Environment and Climate Change released Ontario’s Climate Change Discussion Paper.

The discussion paper invites citizens, businesses and communities to share ideas about how to successfully fight climate change while fostering economic growth and keeping our businesses competitive. The paper is available on the Minister of Environment and Climate Change’s website.

I look forward to engaging in the feedback process, particularly on carbon pricing, which will be an essential tool in reducing greenhouse gas emissions responsible for climate disruption, while helping to diversify the economy and advance the province’s clean technology sector.

Ontario is home to 35 percent of Canadian clean technology firms. A predictable price on carbon pollution will provide the much-needed market signal that will spur investment in clean tech in Ontario. According to Analytical Advisors, an Ottawa-based firm that monitors Canada’s clean technology sector, sales in B.C.’s clean technology industry increased by 48 percent in two years after the introduction of the province’s revenue neutral carbon tax in 2008.

For over four years now, Citizens’ Climate Lobby Canada has been creating the political will for Carbon Fee and Dividend – which is a revenue neutral carbon tax where 100% of the dividends are returned back to the citizens. It will provide the market signal that will spur investment in clean technology and begin in earnest the transition to a low carbon economy. Carbon Fee and Dividend has the virtues of simplicity and predictability and unlike cap and trade is probably the least vulnerable to industry shenanigans. As well, Carbon Fee and Dividend, by virtue of its design, will spare ordinary families and people on fixed incomes the financial burden of transitioning to a low carbon economy.

Thunder Bay’s MP, Bruce Hyer has championed Carbon Fee and Dividend in the House of Commons numerous times since November 19, 2013. The Ontario Government is demonstrating great leadership in tackling the climate crisis. We are at a fork in the road and we could go down a prosperous path. It is not guaranteed yet. Thus, I encourage all citizens of **<YOUR CITY OR REGION>** to provide feedback to the Ontario government on your ideas for how to tackle climate change while creating economic prosperity for all Ontarians.

<YOUR CITY REGION> residents can provide feedback in person on how to tackle climate change online at <https://talk.ontario.ca/climate/ideas> or in person on **<Date and Place of the MOECC Consultations>**.

<Your Name and City>

Word count as is: 425

ONTARIO CLIMATE ACTION TRAINING AND STRATEGY DAY ALL WELCOME! SATURDAY MARCH 21ST – 12:30 PM TO 5:00 PM

Hosted by Citizens' Climate Lobby – Ontario
Friends House, 60 Lowther Ave, Toronto (near Bloor and St. George)

In 2015, we have a chance to make a difference - here in Ontario we have a Minister for the Environment and Climate Change, Glen Murray, who is currently developing a long-term action strategy for Ontario.

We need to get the MPPs at Queen's Park on board for carbon fee and dividend! Come and learn how to talk to your MPP and build this campaign for climate action in Ontario.

AGENDA

12:30 pm – registration, coffee tea, introductions, review agenda, then we will divide into two streams

FOR PEOPLE NEW TO LOBBYING

1:00 Introduction to Citizens Climate Lobby

1:15 Presentation skills – with Toronto350 and Peoples Climate Movement (Emmay Mah)

2:00 Carbon Fee and Dividend (with Michael Brothers of Toronto Climate Action Network)

2:30 Practicing presenting your key concerns in a brief format

Break

3:00 How to lobby your MPP (or MP) – with practice

3:45 How to write effective Letters to the Editor and participate in the current provincial consultation (with hands on writing – a 'writing bee' – bring your laptop if you have one)

4:30 Dealing with resistance – tips and video

4:45 Further opportunities in Ontario, next steps, and special guest (TBA)

5:30 Social time at the pub!

There will be a second stream for strategy discussions for participants already experienced in lobbying and involved in provincial climate organizing. Both streams will come together for the writing.

Cost: \$10 or pay what you can. For more info or to register:

cathy_lacroix@hotmail.com

Join us to make the most of your climate activist efforts!