CCL Monthly Conference Call, Saturday, Feb. 2, 2013

Groups meet at 9:45am PT/12:45pm ET

The international conference call starts at 10:00 am PT/ 1:00 pm ET - sharp

The conference call part of the meeting is a little over an hour long and the groups meet for another hour after that to plan actions.

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

Call-in number: 1-866-642-1665. Pass code 440699#

Guest speaker: Dr. Martin Tresguerres, Scripps Institution of Oceanography



Our February guest speaker is Dr. Martin Tresguerres, assistant professor at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California San Diego. He'll shed some light on global warming's evil twin – ocean acidification, which could lead to a collapse of the marine food chain if left unchecked. Dr. Tresguerres is currently working with a four-year grant from the National Science Foundation to study the effect of ocean acidification on coral. He'll share some preliminary findings from that study.

Actions:

- 1) **Write letters to the editor asking** Canada to take the lead on climate change and not wait for President Obama. Use this month's laser talk as a guideline. The date to expect President Obama to be in the news again speaking of climate change is February 13, when he gives his State of the Union address.
- 2) **Eat an elephant.** How does one eat an elephant? one bite at a time. For the new people to Canada's CCL make yourself comfortable with CCL's KISS Principle on how we are creating the political will for a livable world. Continue to foster the relationship with your MP this month. Ask her or him to sign the CLIMATE FAST PLEDGE if they have not already done so. Additionally, get 27 people to sign one of our parliamentary petitions on climate change and ask your MP to read it aloud in the House of Commons. These are both ongoing actions at Canada's Citizens Climate Lobby and were designed in part to help us build relationships with our MPs.

Canada should take the lead on climate change and not wait for President Obama

In his inaugural speech and in his State of the Union address President Obama said "we will respond to the threat of climate change". Lacking a legislative solution from Congress, President Obama will turn to regulation to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels.

Given Canada's consistent alignment with US climate and energy policies, the Harper Government would probably follow the US lead. However regulation of pollutants is a method most small "c" conservatives hate because it makes for bigger government and it is expensive.

The regulatory approach would become unnecessary, however, with the passage of a steadily-rising tax on the CO2 content of fossil fuels. A clear and predicable price on carbon pollution would use the power of the market to speed the transition to clean energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Returning revenue from the tax to households would shield consumers from the economic impact of rising energy costs associated with the carbon tax.

Coupled with a tariff on goods from nations that lack similar carbon-pricing, the carbon tax would also achieve something unattainable through regulation –motivation for other nations, such as our neighbours to the south, to initiate policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In a well researched Reuters article in early January, former US Presidential Candidate Ralph Nader reported that 33 countries in 2013 will have some form of a carbon tax in place: countries such as Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, India, Finland, the Netherlands, France, Slovenia, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Switzerland, the UK, the Republic of Ireland, Costa Rica, Brazil and South Africa. As well, China is experimenting with seven different pilot carbon pricing programs with a view to rolling out the best model nationally by 2015.

Our future King, Prince Charles in response to the environmental crises facing humanity, has officially stated on his website: "to continue with "business as usual" is an act of suicide on a gargantuan scale."

Canada should take the lead on the climate crisis in North America, not wait for the United States and become the 34th country with a carbon tax in 2013.

Canada should take the lead on climate change and not wait for President Obama

In his second inaugural speech, President Obama said, "We will respond to the threat of climate change, knowing that failure to do so would betray our children and future generations."

On Feb. 12, Obama will deliver his State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress. We anticipate he will have more to say on the topic of climate change, perhaps identifying the steps he intends to take to address the problem.

This will be widely reported in newspapers across the North America, offering us a major opportunity for letters to the editor.

At your meetings this month, begin drafting the **letter to the editor** (**LTE**) that you will send the morning after the President's address. The opening of your letter, which will need to be finished after Obama's speech, should make reference to what the President said about climate change in the State of the Union address. After that, there are numerous talking points that can be brought up. You only need to pick two or three points:

- Between the record heat and numerous climate-related disasters that unfolded in 2012, it's clear that our nation must take steps to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that are warming up our planet.
- Lacking a legislative solution, the US President will turn to regulation. Small "c" conservatives, who abhor regulation, should answer the climate challenge with the free-market approach of a revenue-neutral carbon tax.
- Exxon, Shell and BP have expressed support for a price on carbon. What's holding back the Harper Government?
- Many conservative economists support a revenue-neutral carbon tax, including Reagan economist Art Laffer and Greg Mankiw, economic advisor to George W. Bush and Mitt Romney.
- David Frum, former speech writer for George W. Bush and son of the late Barbara Frum (CBC Television Journalist and Canadian icon) supports a carbon tax too*
- Former US Presidential Candidate and Consumer Critic Ralph Nader supports a carbon tax, and has reported that 33 countries will have some form of a carbon tax in place by 2013
- Returning revenue from a carbon tax to consumers would speed the transition to clean energy without inflicting economic pain on Canadian households.
- Border adjustment tariffs on goods from nations that don't price carbon would protect Canadian businesses and give other countries a strong incentive to follow our lead.

■ Here some quotes that can spice up your LTE:

- In January 2013, his Royal Highness and future King of the Common Wealth, Prince Charles, in response to the environmental crises facing humanity, including humanity has officially stated on his website: 'to continue with "business as usual" is an act of suicide on a gargantuan scale.' ***
- At the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, former Chief Economist at the World Bank and author of the UK government commissioned 2006 Stern Review on the economic impacts of climate change said, 'I got it wrong on climate change it's far, far worse'****
- -Also speaking in Davos, Switzerland was *Dr*. Jim Yong Kim current President of the World Bank. Dr. Kim echoed warnings of the breakdown of civil society if climate change is left unchecked but also said, "There is a lot of money to be made in building the technologies and bending the arc of climate change."

Get a list at your meeting of volunteers committed to sending a letter to the editor and assign someone to send a reminder out to folks the morning after President Obama's address.

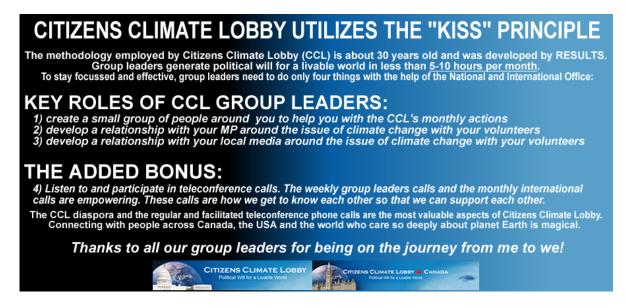
^{*} http://www.cnn.com/2012/12/03/opinion/frum-tax-energy/index.html

^{**} http://blogs.reuters.com/great-debate/2013/01/04/the-best-solution-for-climate-change-is-a-carbon-tax/

^{***} https://www.princeofwales.gov.uk/media/our-view/comment-hrh-the-prince-of-wales-royal-society-report-can-collapse-of-global

^{****} https://www.princeofwales.gov.uk/media/our-view/comment-hrh-the-prince-of-wales-royal-society-report-can-collapse-of-global

Eat an Elephant - How does one eat an elephant? - one bit at time. For the new people to Canada's CCL make yourself comfortable with CCL's KISS Principle on how we are creating the political will for a livable world. Basically we proceed one step at a time, keeping it simple and slow.



Two ways you can continue to foster a relationship with your MP are by asking her or him to:

- 1) Sign the Climate Fast Pledge
- 2) The Ongoing Parliamentary Petition Project



1) Sign the Climate Fast Pledge

Note that this was our November 2012 action and it is ongoing All instructions are on website here: http://citizensclimatelobby.ca/node/122 Many thanks to the Climate Fasters for creating this action and Hamilton 350 for supporting it in November!

- Below is a sample letter, which we encourage you to personalize. You can copy the code below and paste it into your email.
- Please send a copy of your message to <u>ClimateFast@ClimateFast.ca</u>
- If you do not know the name and/or contact information for your Member of Parliament you can find it using this form (you will need your postal code) on the House Of Commons Website
- Below the letters are a list of MPs and Senators who have signed the pledge as of November 26, 2012
- Suggested follow-up: Thank your MP's personally and very PUBLICALLY in a letter to the editor.
 Our national Manager thanked her MP Glenn Thibeault for signing the Climate Fast Pledge in
 Sudbury's Northern Life Newspaper. Note especially how she highlighted that not one Conservative
 MP in Canada would sign the pledge. Be sure to check in with the National CCL Office in Canada
 (cathy@citizensclimatelobby.ca) for updates on who has signed the pledge recently as it is difficult
 to stay on top of everything.

SAMPLE LETTERS TO YOUR MP

I am writing to you as my Member of Parliament.

I want you to know that I am very concerned about the impact global warming will have upon our children's future and the world they live in.

I want to know that you will take action for three needed changes:

- 1. End fossil fuel subsidies
- 2. Put a price on carbon
- 3. Support the development of a renewable energy plan for Canada

These changes will give me greater confidence in our shared future.

Can you assure me that you will work for these changes in the upcoming Parliamentary session?

Sincerely

(your name and address here)

la version française

Vous trouverez, ci-dessous, une lettre modèle, que nous vous encourageons à modifier avec vos propres paroles. Vous pouvez copier le texte ci-dessous et la coller dans votre message courriel.

Veuillez nous envoyer une copie de votre message, au ClimateFast@ClimateFast.ca

Si vous ne connaissez pas le nom et/ou les coordonnées de votre député(e), vous les trouverez ici, à partir de votre code postal : http://www.parl.gc.ca/Parlinfo/Compilations/HouseOfCommons/MemberByPosta... (Site du Parlement)

Monsieur/Madame,

Je vous écris puisque vous êtes mon député(e).

Je veux que vous sachiez que je suis très soucieux/soucieuse de l'impact qu'aura le réchauffement de la planète sur l'avenir de nos enfants et sur leur monde.

Je veux savoir que vous faites tout ce qui est possible afin de mettre en vigueur ces trois changements nécessaires:

- Mettre fin aux subventions des combustibles fossiles.
- Imposer un prix sur le carbone.
- Soutenir le développement d'un plan d'énergie renouvelable pour le Canada

Ces changements me rendront plus optimiste quant à notre avenir partagé.

Pouvez-vous m'assurez que vous mettrez tout en oeuvre afin d'effectuer ces changements pendant cette session parlementaire?

Bien à vous,

(votre nom et adresse ici)

LIBERAL SIGNATURES PLEASE DOUBLE CHECK THE SCROLL ON THE HOMEPAGE OF THE CLIMATE FAST FOR UPDATES and to cross check for possible mistakes -- the data was collated by humans WESTERN CANADA Joyce Murray - Vancouver/ Francis Scarpaleggia - Lac St. Louis Grant Mitchell - Alberta Bob Peterson - Sask Ouadra Denis Coderre - Bourassa Mark Eyking- Sydney / Victoria Lise St. Denis Saint-Maurice-Maria Chaput - Manitoba Kevin Lamoureux - Winnipeg North Champlain. Irwin Cotler - Mount Royal Frank Mahovlich - Northern Ontario Massimo Pacetti, St Leonard, St. Marie Charette-Poulin - Nord Ont Bob Rae - Toronto, Ontario Michel Art Eggleton - Toronto Carolyn Bennett - St. Paul's Celine Hemieux Payette - Que Kirsty Duncan - Etob North THE EAST COAST Scott Brison - King-Hants Judy Sgro, York West John McKay, Scarborough -Geoff Regan - Halifax West Elizabeth Hubley - PEI Guildwood Dominic LeBlanc - NB Fernand Robichaud - New Brunswick Wayne Easter - Malpeque Nfld Joseph Day - New Brunswick **SOUTHERN & EASTERN ONTARIO** Judy Foote - Random Burin St. Nfld Wilfred Moore - Nova Scotia Sean Casey PEI Jane Cordy - Nova Scotia (not GTA) 22 MP's to date John McCallum - Markham George Furey - Nfld Unionville Frank Valeriote - Guelph 13 Senators

NDP SIGNATURES

PLEASE DOUBLE CHECK THE SCROLL ON THE HOMEPAGE OF THE CLIMATE FAST FOR UPDATES and to cross check for possible mistakes -- the data was collated by humans

W	E	S	TE	RN	CA	NA	DA
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Libby Davies -Vancouver East Nathan Cullen - Skeena Bulkley Valley

Ted Hsu - Kingston& the Islands

- 3. Alex Atamanenko BC South Int
- 4. Jinny Simms Newton North Delta
- Peter Julian, Burnaby New Westminster
- Dennis Bevington -Western Arctic
- Niki Ashton Churchill
- Linda Duncan Edmonton-Strathcona - she is on the scroll online
- Jean Crowder Nanaimo-Cowichan 10. Pat Martin - Winnipeg Centre

GTA

- 11. Peggy Nash Parkdale High Park 12.Dan Harris - Scarborough
- Southwest 13. Andrew Cash, Davenport
- 14. Craig Scott, Toronto Danforth
- 15. Mike Sullivan, York South-Weston
- 16. Rathika Sitsabaiesan-Scarborough, Rouge River
- 17. Olivia Chow-Trinity-Spadina 18. Mathew Kellway - Beaches East

ONTARIO (not GTA)

- 19. Paul Dewar Ottawa Centre
- 20. Wayne Marston- Hamilton East
- 21. Glenn Thibeault, Sudbury
- Carol Hughes- Algoma, Manitoulin
- 23. Claude Gravelle, Nickel Belt
- 24. Charlie Angus, Timmins James Bay
- 25.John Rafferty Thunderbay
- 26.Dave Christopherson Hamilton Centre (Deputy Leader)
- 27. Chris Charlton Hamilton mountain
- 28. Irene Mathyssen London Fanshawe
- 29. Brian Masse Windsor West

THE EAST COAST

- 30. Megan Leslie, Halifax
- 31. Ryan Cleary, St. John's South, Mount Pearl
- 32. Peter Stoffer, Nova Scotia (Sackville eastern shore)
- 33. Robert Chisholm, Dartmouth-Cole Harbour
- 34. Yvon Godin, Acadie-Bathurst New Brunswick

OUEBEC

- 35. Guy Caron Rimouski-Negotte-Temiscouata-Les Basques
- 36. Sana Hassainia Vercheres-Les Patriotes
- 37. Francois LaPointe -Montmagny L'Islet Kamouraska Riviere du Loup
- 38. Mylene Freeman Argenteuil Papineau-Mirabel
- 39. Laurin Liu Riviere des Milles
- 40. Pierre-Luc Dusseault-Sherbrooke
- 41.Elaine Michaud Portneuf -Jacques Cartier
- 42.Pierre Nantel, Longeuil-Pierre-Boucher
- 43. Ruth-Ellen Brosseau -Berthier- Maskinonge
- 44.Jean-Francois Larose, Repentigny
- 45. Matthew Dube Chambly Borduas
- 46.Paulina Avala -Honore-Mercier
- 47. Alexandrine Latendresse -Louis St. Laurent
- 48. François Choquette -Drummond
- 49. Dany Morin Chicoutimi Le Fjord
- 50. Anne Marie Day, Charlesbourg Haute Saint Charles
- 51. Robert Aubin, Trois-Rivieres
- 52. Eve Peclet, La Pointe de l'Île

- 53. Anne Minh Thu Quach, Beauharnois Salaberry
- 4. Raymond Cote, Beauport Limoilou Pierre Jacob, Brome-Missisquoi
- 56. Hoang Mai, Brossard La Prairie
- 77. Marjolaine Boutin-Sweet, Hochelaga
- 8. Annick Papillon, Quebec
- 9. Denis Blanchette, Louis-Hebert
- 50.Djaouida Sellah, St. Bruno St. Hubert
- 51.Philip Toone, Gaspesie, Ile de la Madeleine
- 52. Nycole Turmel, Hull-Aylmer
- 63. Alexandre Boulerice, Rosemont La Patrie
- 64.Jean Rousseau Compton, Stanstead
- 5.Jonathan Tremblay, Montmorency--Charlevoix--Haute-Côte-Nord
- 66. Christine Moore Abitibi-Temisamingue
- 7. Sylvain Chicoine, Châteauguay--Saint-Constant
- 8. Jose Nunez-Melo, Laval
- 69. François Pilon, Laval Les Iles 70. Jonathan Genest -Jourdain,
- Manicouagan 1. Jamie Nicholls, Vaudreuil - Soulanges
- 2. Sadia Groguhé, Saint-Lambert Onebec

Possible collating error these MP's most likely have signed

- 73. Isabelle Morin -Notre Dame de Grace-Lachine
- 4. Marc-Andre Morin Laurentides-Labelle
- **QUESTION** needs additional confirmation
- 5. Marie-Claude Morin, Saint Hyacinthe-Bagot

Green indicates new signatures in November as the result of the efforts of MP Jamie Nicholls

New - BC MP Jean Crowder - new CCLer Blaise Salmon in Victoria got the latest signature

Note that this was our June 2012 action and it is ongoing.

Purpose: to educate some MP's and C-PAC watchers about the urgency of the climate crisis, impacts and provide hopeful and realistic solutions

- Call your MP's office
- Identify yourself as a constituent of his/her riding
- Ask if your MP if he/she would be willing read a Parliamentary Petition in its entirety (excluding the name of the signatories) on climate change in the House of Commons
- You can pick one of the versions attached. They have been preapproved
- Print the petition on **legal sized** (8.5 x 17) or regular sized (8.5 x 11) paper
- Make sure there are three lines for signatures on the first page (you may have to format the page to get it to fit)
- Make sure there is a line at the top of every signature page thereafter indicating it is a parliamentary petition for climate change
- get at least 25 signatures on the petition follow the instructions closely
- To be safe get 27 signatures. Once completed, copy it for your files if you wish, bring the original file to your MP's office in to be read in Parliament
- start a new petition
- if your MP will not read it, we can send it to other MP's who will happily read it in the House of Commons
- follow-up by asking when it was read in Parliament, how it was received and a big thank you
- Cabinet Ministers are not permitted to read petitions in the House of Commons as it would constitute a "conflict of interest". Thus if your MP is a cabinet Minister you should inform him/her about the petition and ask if he or she could suggest an conservative MP from the province who might read the petition instead.
- for more details please go here: http://www.parl.gc.ca/About/House/PracticalGuides/Petitions/petitionsPG2008 Pg02-e.htm

Please inform us in your **monthly Citizens Climate Lobby field report** when you have completed a petition.

Resources:

You can download the petitions from our website on this page here: http://citizensclimatelobby.ca/content/parliamentary-petition-project

Or check the email that accompanied these action sheets.

BONUS LASER TALK

Why do we prefer a fee over cap-and-trade?

Cap and trade is our second favorite solution. We prefer a straightforward fee because it takes no time to set up and requires no additional bureaucracy. It's easy to understand and monitor.

A carbon fee sends a predictable price signal that is not subject to market fluctuations and which enables businesses and consumers to plan their energy investments. Conservative-minded economists like Greg Mankiw, Art Laffer and Robert Reich overwhelmingly agree that a fee is the optimal way to reduce carbon emissions. David Frum, former speech writer for George W. Bush and son of the late Barbara Frum supports a carbon tax too.

By contrast, the current European Union cap-and-trade system places a price on permits so low that it has no impact on emissions. Undoubtedly, the biggest problem is offsets, which are easy to manipulate and extremely difficult to measure and verify. Trying to make compliance inexpensive via offsets is the antithesis of what needs to happen.

Also, the problem of climate change is worldwide and an approach is needed that can accommodate the needs of emerging economies. A fee more easily lends itself to border adjustments between countries with different or no carbon fees, enabling agreements that can be harmonized worldwide.

Sweden imposed a carbon tax in 1990, which is now 100 Euros per ton, a pretty hefty price. Since that time they have reduced emissions while GDP has risen 36%, demonstrating that a substantial fee is effective in reducing emissions without harming the economy.