

CCL Monthly Conference Call, Saturday, July 13, 2013

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

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

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.

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

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

Guest is Lynne Twist from the Pachamama Alliance; Reports from CCL's conference



Lynne Twist, a board member of the [Pachamama Alliance](#), has been a recognized global visionary committed to alleviating poverty and hunger and supporting social justice and environmental sustainability. From working with Mother Teresa in Calcutta to the refugee camps in Ethiopia and the threatened rainforests of the Amazon, Lynne's on-the-ground work has brought her a deep understanding of the social tapestry of the world and the historical landscape of the times we are living in.

Actions:

1. Schedule face-to-face meetings with Members of Parliament during the summer recess*. In addition to lobbying for Carbon Fee and Dividend, you will ask your Member of Parliament if he/she would like to donate money to help fund our first Citizens Climate Lobby's conference and lobbying days in Ottawa in November.
2. Write letters to your MP about the recent extreme weather in Calgary and Toronto, massive forest fires in Quebec and/or the catastrophe in Lac Megantic.
3. Save the dates for Canada's first international CCL Conference and Lobbying days in Ottawa from Saturday November 16 to Monday, November 18, 2013. Note our Twitter and Facebook hashtag for this event is [#CCCLConf2013](#).

* Summer recess: June 24-September 15

LASER TALK

What is Canada waiting for?

Member of Parliament, given the recent extreme flooding in Calgary and Toronto, massive forest fires in Quebec, and the catastrophe in Lac Megantic, don't you think it is time now for Canada to take more serious action on climate change and transitioning to a low carbon economy?

To date, Canada has been following in lock-step what the USA is doing with regards to implementing energy policies that address the climate crisis under the guise that not doing so would hurt Canadian manufacturers. Yet in 2010 and again in 2011, [Canada's greenhouse gas emissions increased](#).

With time running out to contain global warming to manageable levels, President Obama has turned to the only option at his disposal – government regulation to curtail greenhouse gas emissions from new and existing power plants. New rules will no doubt help to bring down greenhouse gas emissions.

However, conservatives in general do not like expansion of government bureaucracy. As well, these new regulations will also increase the cost of energy, placing an economic burden on consumers, which almost everyone would oppose, don't you agree?

A July 2, 2013 [Pew Global Poll](#) indicated that 54% of Canadians feel that climate change is a serious threat to our well-being. Additionally, an [April 2013 Angus Reid Public Opinion Poll](#) found that 60% of Canadians support protecting the environment, even at the risk of hampering economic growth.

So, should Canadians continue to follow what the US is doing? How can we reduce emissions without inflicting pain on households while at the same time, not increase government size and protect Canadian manufacturers?

Canadians could embrace a revenue-neutral carbon tax. It corrects the distortion in the free market that gives dirty energy an edge over clean technology. Once this distortion is corrected, the market will move away from fossil fuels and toward clean energy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Returning carbon tax revenue to households will enable Canadians to make this transition without economic pain.

Across Canada, conservative-minded people who are looking for an alternative to government expanding regulations should consider the market-based approach of a revenue-neutral carbon tax.

[Border Tax Adjustments](#) at the World Trade Organization and environmental provisions in the [North America Free Trade Agreement \(NAFTA\)](#) would protect domestic manufacturers and not put them at a competitive disadvantage.

In the 1980's, Canada co-lead the charge on reducing Acid Rain and protecting the Earth's ozone layer. Obviously we have been global laggards on the climate file. It is never too late to change.

Member of Parliament, would you support a revenue neutral carbon tax.

ACTION

Schedule meetings with Members of Parliament

From June 24-September 15, Parliamentarians are in their home ridings. This is a good time to schedule face-to-face with your MP.

At your CCL meeting this month:

Assign volunteers to request meetings with your MP. The purposes of the lobbying session are threefold:

1. To introduce your MP to Citizens Climate Lobby if you have not done so already.
2. To lobby them for Carbon Fee and Dividend (see laser talk).
3. To ask them to donate money for Canada's Citizens Climate Lobby's upcoming conference and lobbying days in Ottawa in November. Cheques can be made out to Citizens Climate Lobby. The international organization is our fiscal agent and they are also acting as our external auditor. We do not have charitable status in Canada. All money's raised from Canadian donations will go toward funding our November 2013 conference and lobbying days in Canada. Money raised will be used to cover expenses such as insurance, the venue, keynote speakers, photocopying, postage, educational materials and travel expenses for some of the conference organizers and interns. Note, none of the money raised will be used for salaries. Any additional moneys raised will go towards our 2014 conference. Parliamentarians that donate money to our conference will have their names included as conference sponsors on our website and on our conference booklet. The hashtag for the event is:
[#CCCLConf2013](#)

With your request, attach copies or links of any recently published media— editorials, letters to the editor and opeds.

Sample request a meeting with your Member of Parliament:

Dear [SCHEDULER'S NAME],

Recently, 22 Canadians who are members of Citizens Climate Lobby traveled to Washington, DC. They attended Citizens Climate Lobby's conference and lobbying days. Excitingly, 374 citizens lobbied in the offices of over 450 Representatives as well as at the Canadian Embassy, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. In November 2013, the Canadian arm of Citizens Climate Lobby has a conference and lobbying days planned for Ottawa too.

During the summer recess, we would like the opportunity to come and talk to you about our organization and how we can work together to create the political will for climate action in Canada. Is there a date and time that we could schedule to meet with MP [NAME]?

I've attached a few pieces our group published in the [NEWSPAPER NAME] that MP [NAME HERE] might want to see.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks,

YOUR NAME,

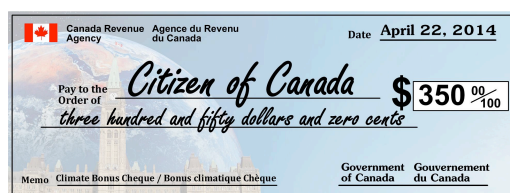
Citizens Climate Lobby, [YOUR CITY]

[CONTACT INFORMATION]

To find your MP's contact information using your postal code please go here:

<http://www.parl.gc.ca/Parlinfo/Compilations/HouseOfCommons/MemberByPostalCode.aspx?Menu=HOC>

As well, feel free to print a few copies this cheque as a visual for your lobbying sessions. It is a very useful prop. A bigger version of the cheque is on the last page.



ACTION #2

Write Parliamentarians about recent extreme events in Canada and the urgent need for of revenue-neutral carbon tax

To build a momentum from our recent lobbying in Washington DC and towards our lobbying in Ottawa in November, Parliamentarians need to hear from us. We are asking you to write your MP's a heartfelt letter about the extreme events that have happened in Canada recently.

Here is an example from the former Executive Director of Climate Action Network Canada, Graham Saul. It is right from his heart.

You can also sign and share the AVAAZ petition he created:

[**This is what climate change looks like**](#)



My thoughts, prayers and good vibes go out to all of my many friends in Toronto where I grew up. I love you and hope that you are all safe.

I'm sad and more than a little bit pissed off.

I can't tell you with 100% certainty that any one severe weather event is the direct result of the increase in greenhouse gas emissions associated with burning oil, coal and gas, but then again I can't tell you with 100% certainty that someone's lung cancer is the direct result of their pack-a-day cigarette habit.

Toronto didn't just break new rainfall records yesterday, it shattered them. If I'm reading the Environment Canada statistics properly, there was almost three times as much rain in Toronto yesterday as there has ever been over the course of a single day. There was actually more rain yesterday than had ever been recorded over the course of the entire month of July.

This is what climate change looks like. It is being fueled by the oil in our leaky pipelines and exploding trains, and it is washing people out of their homes, drying up their crops and stealing their livelihoods around the world. The most impoverished and vulnerable communities are usually hit hardest, their people most likely to die.

It is time that all politicians were asked the question: What is your plan to help us phase out oil, coal and gas and ramp up renewable energy, efficiency and conservation?

Graham Saul, Ecology Ottawa



In letters to Conservatives:

- Introduce yourself and from the heart, communicate how the recent events in Calgary, Toronto, the Quebec forests and/or Lac Megantic are impacting you.
- Indicate that you are member of Citizens Climate Lobby.
- Note that Canada has been following what the US is doing and that President Obama is moving ahead with EPA regulations to cut greenhouse gas emissions at new and existing power plants.
- Suggest that if they don't like the regulatory approach, they should look at a revenue-neutral carbon tax that gives proceeds back to households.
- Note that [Border Tax Adjustments](#) at the World Trade Organization and environmental provisions in the [North American Free Trade Agreement \(NAFTA\)](#) could protect our domestic manufacturers and not put them at an unfair disadvantage.
- Add that Canada's Citizens Climate Lobby has an upcoming conference and lobbying days in November 2013 and we will be continuing our relationship building with MPs across Canada until 2015 and beyond.
- If possible, include clippings of media you or your group has generated.
- Ask for a response.

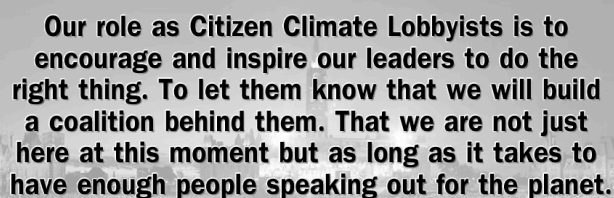
In letters to New Democrats and Liberals, you should:

- Introduce yourself and from the heart, communicate how the recent events in Calgary, Toronto, the Quebec forests and/or Lac Megantic are impacting you.
- Indicate that you are member of Citizens Climate Lobby
- Inform them that 22 Canadians lobbied on Capitol Hill alongside 350 US Citizens in late June 2013. Inform them that Democrats Rep. Barbara Lee, Rep. Henry Waxman, Rep. John Larson, Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse – are working on carbon tax bills.
- Note that [Border Tax Adjustments](#) at the World Trade Organization and environment provisions in the [North American Free Trade Agreement \(NAFTA\)](#) could protect our domestic manufacturers and not put them at an unfair disadvantage
- Add that Canada's Citizens Climate Lobby has an upcoming conference and lobbying days in November 2013 and we will be continuing our relationship building with MPs across Canada until 2015 and beyond.
- If possible, include clippings of media you or your group has generated.
- Ask for a response.

To find your MP's contact information using your postal code please go here:

<http://www.parl.gc.ca/Parlinfo/Compilations/HouseOfCommons/MemberByPostalCode.aspx?Menu=HOC>

Suggestion: Once you write and mail the letter to your MP– submit it to your local newspaper also as it will be a very topical letter.



Our role as Citizen Climate Lobbyists is to encourage and inspire our leaders to do the right thing. To let them know that we will build a coalition behind them. That we are not just here at this moment but as long as it takes to have enough people speaking out for the planet.



Canada Revenue Agency
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Date April 22, 2014

Pay to the
Order of

Citizen of Canada

\$ **350** ⁰⁰/₁₀₀

three hundred and fifty dollars and zero cents

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