



## CCL Monthly Conference Call, Saturday, March 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

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#**



### Guest speaker: Dr. Amanda Staudt, National Wildlife Federation

Dr. Amanda Staudt is a climate scientist with the National Wildlife Federation who uses her expertise to translate complex scientific theories into terms the public can understand. Dr. Staudt connects the dots between global warming and weather related phenomenon including wildfires, hurricanes, increased flooding and drought in certain areas of the country. On our next call, she will give an overview of the National Climate Assessment, a report that will be finalized and released later this year.

### Actions:

- 1) Write letters to your MPs informing them about the **USA's Climate Protection Act (S. 332)**. Use the laser talk and the monthly action as a guideline which include supporting materials and suggested improvements to the Climate Protection Act. Write this letter in the context that March is Federal Budget month in Canada and that Canada has consistently aligned its climate policies with the USA since 2006. Keep in mind your group's strategy for generating support for Carbon Fee and Dividend in your riding.
- 2) On **Tuesday March 12, 2013** on the CCL Canada strategy call, CCL group leaders we will share their various strategies on how they are working with their MP's. We have four different political parties in Ottawa plus regional differences. We will share a general outline for Canada's two year strategic plan developed by CCLers on this call too.
- 3) **Ongoing actions:** register your support for us online, fundraising, the Parliamentary Petition Project, Climate Fast Pledge and writing letters to the editor.
- 4) **Upcoming April:** In your riding search and register for events to table at for Earth Day locally. Also in April there is the leadership race for the Liberal Party of Canada and the NDP Policy Convention.
- 5) **Special Request:** Please take two minutes and nominate Marshall Saunders, the President and Founder of Citizens Climate Lobby for The Guardian newspaper's "*climate abolitionists fighting for a sustainable world.*"

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sustainable-business/interactive/climate-change-abolitionists-fighting-sustainable-world>

## Canada and the USA's Climate Protection Act?

The Harper Government has consistently followed US climate and energy policy including: withdrawing from the Kyoto Protocol, aligning our Copenhagen Accord emission targets with the USA, both are signatories to the International Black Carbon Treaty and sector by sector regulation of domestic greenhouse gas emissions.

In his State of the Union address Obama said, "I urge this Congress to pursue a bipartisan, market-based solution to climate change."

Senators Barbara Boxer and Bernie Sanders the next day introduced the Climate Protection Act – **S. 332** – which places a tax on carbon-based fuels and returns much of the revenue to households.

This is a simple, straightforward and effective approach that uses the power of the free market to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. And by giving revenue back to households, it shields consumers from the economic impact of higher energy costs associated with the carbon tax.

While this is a good bill, there are two things that could make it better:

1. Make it revenue-neutral, meaning that ALL of the revenue would be returned to households. Conservative-minded people would be more likely to accept a revenue-neutral bill.
2. The tax must ramp up more aggressively – at least by \$10 a ton each year– in order to achieve the reductions in CO2 needed to avert disaster.

Why is Canada waiting for the USA anyways? China didn't - they announced in February 2013 that they will soon have a carbon tax<sup>1</sup>.

**MP's name, will you support a revenue neutral carbon tax, and urge your party to adopt it in its policy platform?**

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<sup>1</sup> [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-02/19/c\\_132178898.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-02/19/c_132178898.htm)

## **We can switch to renewables in 20 years**

Mark Jacobson, Stanford University, and Mark Delucci, UC Davis, wrote a plan for how to provide electricity for the entire world by 2030 using only wind, water, and solar technology already available in 2009.<sup>2</sup>

When they created this plan to meet the world's energy demand in 20 years, they took into account that the world adds approximately 1 billion people every 12 years and that emerging economies are looking to have our lifestyle, which requires greater energy needs.

Their report shows we can meet the entire world's energy needs with renewables in 20 years, we can do it without nuclear, and we can do it for the same money that we'd be spending on fossil fuel power.

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=a-path-to-sustainable-energy-by-2030>

## ACTION #1

# Write to MPs about the US's Climate Protection Act

CCL's long-term campaign to pass effective climate legislation turns this month to the Climate Protection Act (S. 332) in the USA and the upcoming federal budget bill in Canada. Sponsored by Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT), **Bill S. 332** would place a steadily increasing tax on carbon-based fuels and return revenue to consumers. **Provisions in the bill include:**

- A \$20 per ton CO2 fee and equivalent fee on methane emissions, rising 5.6% annually.
- 60% of the revenue will be returned monthly as direct "dividends," electronically or by check.
- The tax is upstream -- first point of sale of fossil fuel -- and the bill includes border tax adjustments to protect domestic industry and induce other nations to enact carbon taxes.
- 25% of revenue goes to general treasury for deficit reduction.
- 10 - 15% will fund clean energy proposals and low-income weatherization.

As we build support for the Climate Protection Act, we will also work to **improve this legislation in two important ways:**

1. Make it revenue-neutral by returning ALL the proceeds back to the American people. This will improve the prospects of attracting Republican support AND provide the best protection for households against rising energy costs.
2. Ramp up the tax more aggressively. In the USA, the Carbon Tax Center estimates that the current rate of increase – 5.6 percent a year – will yield only a 12 percent reduction from 2005 levels of CO2 emissions over the next decade. Increasing the tax by \$10 a ton per year will reduce CO2 emissions 30 percent below 2005 levels over the next 10 years, more in line with the reductions needed to avert future catastrophe.

Write letters to your MPs informing them about the USA's Climate Protection Act (S. 332) and how we would improve it. Write the letter in the context that:

- March is Federal Budget month in Canada
- The Harper Government has consistently aligned its climate policies with the USA since 2006 (see Laser Talk)
- Canada's alignment with US policy may be partially explained by the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). *"The North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation was also negotiated and implemented in parallel to the NAFTA. It requires that each Party ensures its laws provide for high levels of environmental protection without lowering standards to attract investment. Each Party agreed to effectively enforce its environmental laws through the use of inspectors, monitoring compliance and pursuing the necessary legal means to seek appropriate remedies for violations. Each Party must also provide a report on the state of its environment, develop environmental emergency preparedness measures, promote environmental education, research and development, assess environmental impacts and promote the use of economic instruments"*  
<http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/nafta-alena/side.aspx?lang=eng&view=d>
- Keep in mind your group's strategy for generating support for Carbon Fee and Dividend in your riding.

### Address:

YOUR MP'S NAME  
House of Commons,  
Ottawa, Ontario,  
K1A 0A6  
NO STAMP REQUIRED

### Resources:

OpEd - Reynolds and Orlando – [How Republicans & Canada can answer Obama's climate challenge](#)

## Action #2

On **Tuesday March 12, 2013 at 5:00 pm PST / 8:00 EST pm** (note your time zone) on the CCL Canada strategy call, CCL group leaders we will share their various strategies on how they are working with their MP's. We have four different political parties in Canada plus regional differences. As well, members of CCL Canada has worked on an overall plan for Canada and we will be sharing a general outline for Canada's strategic plan. In April there is the leadership race for the Liberal Party of Canada and the NDP Policy Convention. In June there is a Conservative Convention too. We will learn from each other by sharing.

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## ACTION #3

### Ongoing actions

#### i) Register your support for us online

##### FACEBOOK and TWITTER

Paradoxically, although CCL is not a mouse click democracy group, our presence in social media has some sway with politicians. Facebookers and Twitterers please like the Canadian CCL page in Facebook and follow us Twitter. <https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Citizens-Climate-Lobby-Canada/326480127363866>  
<https://twitter.com/CitizensLobbyCa>

Even better post our FB page on your wall periodically and ask your FB friends to like us well.

And for those of you not in social media - don't feel pressured to join and follow us in social media. We use social media to attract people to us. Social media not used for communicating to group leaders and volunteers.

##### OUR CANADIAN CCL NEWSLETTER:

You should have received our newsletter **The C-CCL Dispatch**. If you have not please sign up for our newsletter on the left side of the homepage of our website at [www.citizensclimatelobby.ca](http://www.citizensclimatelobby.ca) . Encourage your friends to sign-up too. Thanks Cheryl, Laurel, Patricia and others for creating, writing and publishing the newsletter.

##### ONLINE DONATIONS

Citizens Climate Lobby is on the home stretch of Phase II of our Fundraising which began in December and ends at the end of April. Please check December Action Sheets for more details:

<http://citizensclimatelobby.ca/sites/default/files/files/CCLactionsheetDecemberCanada2012.pdf>

We have created a donations page and button for Canada's CCL you can direct potential donators to:

<http://citizensclimatelobby.ca/content/donate-now>

If you wish to make a contribution to CCL or increase your monthly donation at this time, you are welcome to do so, but it is not required. Please note that all donations from Canada are used for Canada's Citizens Climate Lobby.

##### ONLINE MEMBERSHIP ROLL INTERNATIONALLY - April Action

If you go online to donate at the CCL USA website you will notice that there is a section to register as a supporter of our cause. It is not ready yet. They still have to include a section for Canadians to register.

The speed with which CCL has grown is breathtaking and encouraging in North America. To help with our fundraising and expansion efforts, Citizens Climate Lobby International would like to update its membership rolls. This action is the first step toward fulfilling our fundraising goals for 2013. By "Registering your Support" on the USA Web page, we can show foundations our big and growing numbers of volunteers. But it is not ready yet.

"Registering your Support" will probably be our official April Action.

THANK YOU!

## ii) Connect with your MP and his/her staff.

These next two actions are ongoing and have been designed to help you connect with your MP and his/her staff. If you have any questions ask them on the CCL Canada calls next week. The schedule for those calls can be found here: <http://citizensclimatelobby.ca/content/upcoming-events>

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You can call her on her cell phone 705-929-4043 and ask questions too.

- **Has your MP signed the Climate Fast Pledge yet?** - This was our November 2012 action. Be sure to check the website because more 15 MP's have signed the pledge since November!  
**UPDATE:** <http://citizensclimatelobby.ca/node/122>  
**ORIGINAL INSTRUCTIONS:**  
<http://citizensclimatelobby.ca/sites/default/files/files/CCLactionsheetNovemberCanada2012.pdf>
- The Parliamentary Petition Project has been ongoing for almost a year. Political stripes aside, I honestly need to say MP Kirsten Duncan (Etobicoke) has been a huge factor behind this project. All details can be found here: <http://citizensclimatelobby.ca/content/parliamentary-petition-project>

## iii) Build Political Will in the Mainstream Media

Keep writing those letters to the editor. Please feel free to cut and paste all the great lines from fellow CCLers.

You can access their letters to the editor, columns, media releases and editorial packets on our website. Check out our All Things Media page: <http://citizensclimatelobby.ca/content/all-things-media>

The **laser talks** contained within all the **monthly actions** are a veritable source of material too.  
<http://citizensclimatelobby.ca/content/monthly-actions>

A **Laser Talk Package** can be found here:

<http://citizensclimatelobby.ca/sites/default/files/files/CCL2012LobbyPrepLaserTalks.pdf>

### ACTION #4

**Upcoming April:** In your riding search and register for events to table at for Earth Day. Also in April there is the leadership race for the Liberal Party of Canada and the NDP Policy Convention. We will go over this briefly on our upcoming calls for Canadian CCLers.

If you forget the schedule of calls it is available on our website at:  
<http://citizensclimatelobby.ca/content/upcoming-events>

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## Special Request

Please take two minutes and nominate Marshall Saunders, the President and Founder of Citizens Climate Lobby for The Guardian newspaper's: **Climate change abolitionists: who is fighting for a more sustainable world?**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sustainable-business/interactive/climate-change-abolitionists-fighting-sustainable-world>

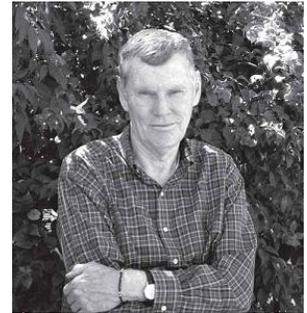
*"It took Abraham Lincoln and others many years of campaigning to abolish slavery - but who are the contemporary figures fighting to abolish dangerous climate change?"*

*Here we have a selection of climate change abolitionists, those engaging in an uphill battle to challenge the broken systems that threaten our survival. As you can see, we've left eighteen spaces blank - these are for your suggestions.*

*Put forward your climate change abolitionists in the comments section below, [email them](#) or tweet us [@GuardianSustBiz](#). You can do this until **Wednesday 6 March** and shortly after we'll use your suggestions to fill the empty spaces."*

## Marshall Saunders

Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL) was founded in September 2007 by businessman and philanthropist **Marshall Saunders**. Since the 1990s, Marshall has funded and directed a micro-lending program for impoverished women in Mexico called **Grameen de la Frontera**, which is modeled after the highly-successful Grameen Bank in Bangladesh. Marshall's philanthropic endeavors have not gone unnoticed. He was awarded the **Grameen Foundation Humanitarian Award** in 2009. Marshall is the only non head of state to be given this honor.



After seeing Al Gore's documentary, "**An Inconvenient Truth**," Marshall realized that the people he was working so hard to help stood to lose everything if civilization continues along its current path. Marshall was among the first 1,000 who were trained under **Al Gore** to lead presentations on climate change, speaking to thousands of people in one year. He soon realized, however, that there was a critical element missing in efforts to solve the problem - **political will**.

Having experienced first-hand the effective advocacy of **RESULTS**, an anti-poverty organization that boosted U.S. support for child survival funding by twenty-fold and put microfinance on the map, Marshall set out to duplicate the RESULTS model and apply it to the thorny issue of climate change. That model is to **train and empower citizen volunteers** to speak effectively on the issues and **develop relationships** with members of Congress, the media, and other community leaders in ways that compel our government to take strong action.

Citizens Climate Lobby was founded and is primarily funded by one man - Marshall Saunders. His vision has inspired many people and what we have achieved in such a short time is remarkable.

There are now more than 80 active CCL groups in Canada and the U.S. and growing! In 2012, our North American volunteers more than doubled our media hits and meetings with representatives compared to in 2011. Here are the International Media Statistics:

- Letters to the Editor **537** (2012) vs **181** (2011)
- Editorials **22** (2012) vs **12** (2011)
- Meetings with MPs, MPPs (Ontario), Congress and Senators **534** (2012) vs **255** (2011)

At our 2012 conference in Washington DC, **175 volunteers** had **303 meetings** with congressional offices and every office on Capital Hill received a letter about Citizens Climate Lobby and the Save Our Climate Act (H.R. 3242). Finally in the USA, the secured 22 sponsors for the Save Our Climate Act (H.R. 3242) - which is a carbon fee and dividend bill tabled by Representative Peter Stark.

*Special thanks to Christine in Red Lake for alerting us to the Guardian Article!*