



**CCL Canada January 2018 actions\* at a glance:**

1. Using the accompanying planning sheets, set your 2018 goals and plans for relationship building with your local Parliamentarians, media and community.
2. Answer this question with your group: What would your group do if U.S. congress were to introduce a carbon pricing bill?
  - CCL Ontario Action: Join the [CCL Ontario Group](#) in CCL Community if you want to help us plan for Election 2018 in Ontario.

\*Each month, CCL provides coordinated actions for each chapter that build political will for a livable world.

**Each month, we have at least 3 CCL calls:**

	Date and Time	Call Options
<b>Canada:</b> All CCLers welcome. We check in with each other, share field reports, and go over monthly actions.	Option 1: <b>Thurs, Jan 11, 2018</b> at 6 pm PT/ 9 pm ET Option 2: <b>Fri, Jan 12, 2018</b> at 8 am PT/ 11 am ET Option 3: <b>Mon, Jan 15, 2018</b> at 6 pm PT/ 9 pm ET  Just pick 1 to attend. <a href="#">Sign this doodler</a> to RSVP.	Uberconference Line ( <a href="tel:1-888-570-6238">1-888-570-6238</a> ) or <a href="#">log in online for free</a> .
<b>International:</b> see below	<b>Sat, Jan 13, 2018</b> at 10 am PT/ 1 pm ET	<a href="#">Zoom Room 2017201717</a> or call +1 877.369.0926, meeting code: 2017 2017 17
<b>Canada Education:</b> see below	<b>Tues, Jan 23, 2018</b> at 1 PT/ 4 pm ET sharp!	<a href="#">Zoom Room 3920795005</a> or call +1 877.369.0926, meeting code: 3920 7950 05

**CCL International Call Guest Speaker:** Sabine Marx, Earth Institute at Columbia University



How do we communicate effectively with policy makers about climate change? For answers on our January call, we turn to Sabine Marx with the Center for Research on Environmental Decisions (CRED). She's the Director of Research at the National Center for Disaster Preparedness (NCDP) at the Earth Institute, Columbia University and

the co-author of "[The Psychology of Climate Change Communication](#)." Dr. Marx joined CRED in 2005 after two years of post-doctoral work at the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) at Columbia's Earth Institute. She received her Ph.D. in medical history from Carnegie Mellon University and holds a Masters degree in Sociology and Pedagogy, with a minor in Psychology and Art Therapy from the University of Cologne.

**CCL Canada Education Call Topic:** Economic theory of carbon fee and dividend

Dr. David Robinson teaches economics at Laurentian University and is Director of the Institute for Northern Ontario Research and Development. He is best known in Northern Ontario for columns in Northern Ontario Business Magazine that focus on Northern economic issues and for frequent media interviews and appearances on TVO's Agenda with Steve Paiken.

Dr. Robinson has been truly generous of the time and wisdom he has shared with CCL Canada. He has been a guest or keynote speaker at four of our events ([November 2014](#), [January 2015](#), [June 2016](#), and [November 2016](#)). In addition, he provides sage advice to our national director from time to time. We are grateful for all that he has shared.

| with us.

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**ACTION 1: Using the accompanying planning sheets, set your 2018 goals and plans for relationship building with your local Parliamentarians, media and community.**

**Why:** Social science research continues to highlight there are several key factors that help support anyone's interest in getting more involved with an organization they care about: setting specific and measurable short-term and "stretch" goals, having a support system to help you achieve them, and celebrating our accomplishments together.

**Materials:** 2018 Planning Sheets (attached in the email with these actions sheets) for everyone, pencils, pens and perhaps even markers, Post It Notes and/or flip chart paper. As 2018 begins, let's take a moment to celebrate the successes and set our sights on the goals we wish to accomplish in the coming year.

- Have members share accomplishments of the last year and/or how far we have come since 2010
- Building on those successes, take a few minutes for members to look over the 2018 planning sheets and decide group goals for the coming year.
- Using the group planning sheets, set goals your group would like to accomplish in 2018.
- Assign someone to be the recording secretary and keep track of the key ideas and then email everyone afterwards your group's plans. Alternatively, you can put it in a google doc and share it.
- Agree on a timeline, perhaps quarterly, to review your group's goals and the progress toward achieving those goals.

**NOTE:** A very important task in the sheets is to register at [OpenParliament.ca](http://OpenParliament.ca) to receive updates when your MP speaks in Parliament.

Your social capital in your riding is immeasurable and will win the day in 2019. Quality not quantity of time spent doing CCL work should be your paramount guidepost. Planning ahead is important because it helps with self-care and respecting the workflow of every member. We are betting the ranch on you and your groups in your ridings holding the ground we have gained and hopefully advancing it. All politics is local.

Commented [LS1]: Possibly is a bit pessimistic, suggest something a bit more positive

**ACTION 2: Answer this question with your group: What would your group do if U.S. congress were to introduce a carbon pricing bill?**

**Why:** The work on carbon pricing continues in the U.S, whose actions dominate international news. A carbon pricing bill in the U.S. provides an large but limited overton window, or window of discourse, to build political will locally.

An increasing number of Republicans and Democrats in congress are joining the Climate Solutions Caucus (CSC), which explores policy options that address the challenges of our changing climate. As of January 9, 2018, the number of members of congress in the CSC was 66 (33 Republicans and 33 Democrats), a number that has more than tripled since January 2017. The CSC can be key in bringing bipartisan support to a federal plan to price carbon, such as the Carbon Dividends plan proposed by Republican elder statesmen in February 2017.

Consider taking advantage of the potential for a carbon pricing bill in the U.S. by discussing and planning what your group can do to build political will locally, such as submitting letters to the editor, media releases, and media packets, in light of an announcement like this.

**CCL Ontario Action: Join the [CCL Ontario Group](#) in CCL Community if you want to help us plan for Election 2018 in Ontario.**

Two things we would like to do before the election are:

1. Have a special CCL Ontario conference online with experts, and outlining strategies on how to maximize your local impact at election townhalls using the CCL way.
2. Develop a simple and objective table that compares the four parties election platforms on carbon pricing, projected GHG emissions reductions and other items akin to what CCL BC did in their election last year: <https://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/bc-election-climate-action-counts/>

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### **LASER TALK: Border Tax Adjustments made Simple**

Imagine Canada 10 years from now with a much higher and comprehensive carbon price, perhaps considerably higher than that of its major trading partners like the United States.

Without complementary measures, industries, such as cement and steel, [among others](#), may be at risk of leaving Canada. These industries have a high carbon footprint, i.e., are “carbon-intensive”, so 10 years from now, a higher carbon price will be increasing the price of their products. Businesses in these industries also rely heavily on exports, i.e., are “trade-exposed”.

As the [Ecofiscal Commission](#) reports, if these businesses decide to move to another country with a lower carbon price, not only would we lose economic activity, but the net impact of Canadian climate policy on global emissions would be significantly reduced.

When carbon pollution just moves to another part of the world, that movement is called “offshoring” or more specifically, “carbon leakage”.

So as our carbon price rises, there is a risk of job loss, weakening of our climate policies and general pushback on carbon pricing from carbon-intensive, trade-exposed businesses.

This is where there is a role for Border Tax Adjustments (BTAs), also known as Border Carbon Adjustments. If, for example, Canadian steel, is having trouble competing in the American market because of our higher carbon price, steel exporters would receive a rebate when they export to the US. [Fossil fuel exports would not receive these rebates](#); BTAs would apply only to carbon intensive goods.

Carbon intensive goods coming into our country from countries without a carbon price would not receive a free ride. They would be [subject to our carbon fee](#) via an equivalent tariff. That would incentivize other countries to adopt an equivalent price on carbon and keep the revenues in their country.

According to the [Carbon Tax Centre](#), BTAs allow us to move ahead with carbon pricing without waiting for our trading partners to catch up.

Are BTAs legal under free trade agreements? [Maria Panezi](#), with the Centre for International Governance Innovation spoke on this issue at CCL Canada’s 2016 Conference. Panezi believes BTAs can be designed to be compatible with the main World Trade Organization agreement – the General Agreement on Tarrifs and Trade (GATT). [Ecofiscal](#) cautions that BTAs could be held up in the courts even if properly designed.

CCL Canada’s position is that BTAs should be included in the federal carbon price plan to level the playing field for domestic industries with international jurisdictions without a similar carbon price. This is a perfect time for the Canadian government to study BTAs – while our carbon price is still relatively low.