



Citizens' Climate Lobby Canada Lobby Climatique des Citoyens

CCL Monthly International Conference Call

Saturday, December 10, 2016
10 am PT/ 11 am MT/ 12 pm CT/ 1 pm ET/ 2 pm AT

All CCL International Calls are on Zoom

Audio if you have unlimited US calls	Toll number: +1 408.638.0968 (US Toll), meeting code: 2017201717
Toll free audio	Toll Free number: +1 877.369.0926 (US Toll Free and you can call from Canada but we are not sure yet if you will be billed), meeting code: 2017201717
Computer Access	Click here: https://citizensclimate.zoom.us/j/2017201717 Please use this option if you can because it is free for you and CCL
iPhone or iPad Access	Download the Zoom app from the Appstore and meeting ID: 2017201717
Android phone or tablet app	Download "Zoom Meeting" in Google Play and meeting ID: 2017201717

- 1) It is a good idea to sign into the CCL Zoom Room online with your computer 15 minutes early.
- 2) It is best to use your phone until you are comfortable with Zoom.
- 3) If you have unlimited long-distance calling to the USA, please dial the first number above. If you have a limited calling plan, then use the toll-free number. We are not sure if all telephone plans in Canada will cover the call. Thus, do your best to get on the computer line if you are uncertain that your telephone plan will cover the toll free call.

Need help? [Watch this 3:00 minute video tutorial](#) (when the tutorial refers to a meeting URL, use the URL for CCL Zoom meetings: <https://citizensclimate.zoom.us/j/2017201717>
[How to adjust your audio and video settings](#)

NEED SUPPORT: This is why CCL wanted Zoom: Zoom offers tech support 24 hours a day seven days a week. Zoom's tech support line is [888.799.9666](tel:8887999666) first. CCL's Meeting ID is [2017201717](https://citizensclimate.zoom.us/j/2017201717)
If Zoom cannot resolve your issue, then contact it@citizensclimate.org

NOTE!!! Canadian CCL calls are still on our Uberconference Line

[888-570-6238](tel:8885706238) - no pin required (good for calls coming from Canada and the USA).
Or log in online and call for free: : <https://www.uberconference.com/citizensclimatelobbycanada>

CCL CANADA Monthly Action calls- Pick one

Thursday, December 8, 2016: 6 pm PT/ 7 pm MT/ 8 pm CT/ 9 pm ET/ 10 pm AT ... note time zones
Friday, December 9, 2016: 8 am PT/ 9 am MT/ 10 am CT/ 11 am ET/ 12 pm AT ... note time zones
Monday, December 12, 2016: 6 pm PT / 7 pm MT/ 8 pm CT/ 9 pm ET/ 10 pm AT ... note time zones

NOTE THAT CCL Canada Monthly Education Call is Cancelled in December.
Too close to Christmas and we have worked over time since early November too.

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GUESTS: Sam Daley-Harris and Jay Butera



Sam Daley-Harris

Most members of Congress do not go to Washington with the intention of being a champion for climate change solutions. So, how then do we turn them into one? RESULTS founder Sam Daley-Harris and CCL Senior Congressional Liaison Jay Butera join our December call to walk us through the process of moving members of Congress up the ladder of leadership on climate change.

Sam is currently the CEO and Founder of the Center for Citizen Empowerment and Transformation and author of “Reclaiming Our Democracy.”



Jay Butera

Jay was instrumental in the founding of the bipartisan House Climate Solutions Caucus and is featured in Season Two of National Geographic’s documentary series on climate change, “Years of Living Dangerously.”

CCL Canada DECEMBER 2016 Actions:

1) From December 15 to January 15 ask friends to donate to Citizens’ Climate Lobby Canada.

<https://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/donate/>

2) Bring Christmas cards to your monthly meeting and get each member to send your MP a Christmas card. All politics is local. The more people and diverse people connecting with our local MPs, the more it will empower our MPs to do the right thing.

CCL ONTARIO ACTION

1) The province of Ontario is currently consulting Ontario residents about their energy plan. Please leave comments regarding Ontario's carbon pricing policy using this month’s laser to guide you.

<https://talks.ontario.ca/energytalks/content/carbon-pricing>

ONGOING ACTIONS FROM NOVEMBER –it is not too late

1. It is not too late to leave comments on the Canadian Budget 2017 Consultations in support of a strong and incrementally rising revenue neutral carbon tax. Using our resources on the [Canadian Laser Talks Page](#) and our [November 2016 Leave Behind](#), leave comments online Canadian Budget 2017 Consultations <http://budget-lebudget.ca/>.
2. Help make sure climate change becomes an integral part of Canada’s Environment Assessment process. Go online and fill in the choice book: <http://eareview-examenee.ca/choicebook/>

OPTIONAL: CREATE POLITICAL WILL FOR Electoral reform

In the next two weeks help create the political will for electoral reform in Canada by filling in the survey at MyDemocracy.ca and/or emailing your MP and Minister Monsef. **This is a time sensitive request.** Please only do it if it aligns with your local group’s strategy for creating long-term political will in your riding. This is not a top-down directive.

Be sure to document your online submissions and Christmas Cards in our monthly field reports under: Personal Letter to Member of Congress <https://community.citizensclimatelobby.org/field-reports/>

ACTION #1: Citizens' Climate Lobby Canada's Mission 150

Ask friends to donate to Citizens' Climate Lobby Canada. Our fundraising will run from December 15 to January 15. The best way to raise money is to ask people in person.

The [Paris Climate Agreement](#) in December 2015, the [Vancouver Declaration](#) in March 2016, the [North American Climate, Clean Energy, and Environment Partnership Action Plan](#) in June 2016 and the then the announcement that Canada will have a national carbon price in October 2016 have set the course of history in the right direction.

We have no doubt that CCL Canada has played a role in creating the political will for a national carbon price. Two days after Election 2015 a Canadian Senator sent our national director an email with the following message, *"You have done so much "ground work" that can now start to really pay off. I feel that the prospects for climate action are exceptional."*

The genius of any plan is not in the idea but in the execution. Much work yet is needed to be done. Many details are missing in these landmark plans. Especially of concern to us is the long-term political will nationally and internationally, especially in light of the recent USA election of Donald Trump. What is needed is political will and that was what we generate at Citizens' Climate Lobby.

Canada's transition to a low carbon economy is all but unstoppable and we are taking nothing for granted. Check out our numbers, our pledge and beautiful photo album from our lobbying efforts in late November 2016:

From [November 26-29](#), 2016, **53** Citizens' Climate Lobby volunteers prepared for and then lobbied on Parliament Hill for improvements to Canada's national carbon pricing policy and experienced [their most productive week](#) of lobbying to date in their six-year history in Canada. They lobbied **40** Members of Parliament (MP) and **one senator in face-to-face** meetings, as well as the **staff of six parliamentarians**. Included among the volunteers were three US citizens and three First Nations. Additionally that week, a CCL group lobbied a Provincial Minister of Energy face-to-face.

For over six years, Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) volunteers across Canada have been communicating about climate change and carbon pricing with their federal and provincial parliamentarians. In 2015, their attentions were more focused provincially. The last time CCL did a major federal lobbying push was in 2014. In 2014, CCL Canada officially recorded **55 face-to-face meetings** that entire year. To date in 2016, CCL volunteers from across Canada have documented 157 face-to-face meetings with federal parliamentarians specifically to discuss Canada's national carbon pricing policy. Thus, [2016 will be their biggest year of lobbying federal parliamentarians too](#).

Volunteers at the November conference acknowledged that Canada's climate targets are currently inadequate and that there is a grave risk of losing the political resolve on the gains Canada has made to secure a healthy climate in the lead-up to next federal election in 2019. Thus, they made the following pledge:

"I want to live in a democracy where all politicians of all political stripes can get elected for pro-environmental policies, not in spite of them. Thus, in my riding, I pledge to generate the political will for a livable world. Specifically, I pledge to do my best to keep the discussions around climate change and carbon pricing factual, respectful and non-partisan in my local media, while doing community outreach and communicating with local leaders. All politics is local after all."

Read our media release here: <https://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/3462-2/>

Check out our Facebook Photo Album for the event: https://www.facebook.com/pg/Citizens-Climate-Lobby-Canada-326480127363866/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1425363197475548

To our volunteers, if you manage to raise \$500 or more for CCL Canada, you will get a special invitation to our Donor's Luncheon at our 2017 National Conference in Ottawa.

MISSION 150: Currently, we are fundraising to cover the costs for our national conference in Ottawa in 2017. Our goal is 150 Citizen Climate Lobbyists on Parliament Hill in October 2017 creating political will for a livable world in honour of 150 years of Confederation in Canada.

Your financial contributions at this critical juncture in world history will literally mean the world to us because conference fees do not cover the costs of a national conference by a longshot. We also offer many people zero fees and reduced fees to people who would otherwise not be able to afford the conference.

If you would prefer to donate by mail, you can make out your cheque to "Citizens' Climate Lobby" and mail your cheque to:

Citizens' Climate Lobby Canada
435 Notre Dame Ave, Lower Floor
Sudbury ON, P3C 5K6
Att'n: Dr. Sanjiv Mathur

Or you can also donate directly to our Canadian account via Paypal on our website:

<https://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/donate/>

IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

- Donations made to CCL USA from Canada now stay in the USA
- A board pre-approves all expenditures
- A board approves all withdrawals of money
- Two people must co-sign to remove money from our national account
- We only make plans based on moneys we have previously fund-raised for first. We do not incur debt
- We anticipate our 2017 conference will cost between \$15,000 to \$20,000
- No money raised in our year-end fundraising have ever been used to support salaries or even the travel expenses for our national director.
- We do not have charitable status in Canada and thus cannot issue tax receipts. Here is why:
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-revenue-agency-environmental-defence-audit-political-activity-liberal-1.3879154>
- Our national director's experience is that people get that "receipts" are a ridiculous expectation given the urgency and the nature of the work we do.

ACTION #2: Send Christmas cards to your MPs

Bring Christmas cards to your meeting.

Get each member of your group to send your MP a Christmas card. Ask your members to open up with appreciation of the MP's service; reassure your MP that we have "got their back" on carbon pricing. Express wishes for the strengthening of Canada's climate policies. All politics is local. The more people connecting with our MPs around creating the political will for a livable world, the more it will empower our MPs to do the right thing.

Be sure to document all the Christmas cards sent in our monthly field reports under: Personal Letter to Member of Congress <https://community.citizensclimatelobby.org/field-reports/>

LASER TALK #1– The CCL-Canada Pledge for 2019

Volunteers at the November 2016 conference acknowledged that Canada's climate targets are currently inadequate and that there is a grave risk of losing the political resolve on the gains Canada has made to secure a healthy climate in the lead-up to next federal election in 2019. Thus, they made the following pledge:

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CCL ONTARIO ACTION

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LASER TALK #2 – Ontario should rethink its carbon pricing policy

When consulted in 2015, many Ontarians in 2015 indicated they preferred an economy-wide, national and revenue-neutral carbon tax. (1) Yet in the spring of 2015, Ontario announced it would join the Western Climate Initiatives (WCI) cap-and-trade program with Quebec and California. On July 1, 2016 Ontario's cap-and-trade legislation came into effect.

Frankly, the cap-and-trade program carbon price is too low, ramps up too slowly and it is not economy-wide. Many other concerns were outlined in an Open Letter in December 2015 from Citizens' Climate Lobby Canada. (3) We now have more concerns.

In late November 2016, Ontario's Auditor General reported that cap-and-trade will cost Ontario taxpayers eight billion dollars and raised alarm about the actual emissions reductions in Ontario. Of concern, Ontario will "take the credit" for emission reductions in Quebec and California under its plan for a shared cap-and-trade system — reductions that will make up 80 per cent of the government's greenhouse gas targets. That leaves just 3.8 megatonnes in reduced emissions — of the projected 18.7 — that will actually happen here in Ontario by 2020. (3) We are supposed to actually cut emissions in Ontario, not trade and offset them.

It should be noted that in September 2016, legislators in California, passed AJR 43, a joint resolution urging the federal government to enact a revenue neutral tax on carbon-based fossil fuels and return revenue from the tax back to middle and low-income households (4). The REMI study commissioned by CCL USA predicts that, after 10 years, a revenue-neutral carbon tax would lead to a decrease in carbon dioxide emissions of 33 percent, an increase in national employment of 2.1 million jobs, and an average monthly dividend for a family of four of \$288. (5)

Furthermore, there are questions about the long-term viability of California's cap and trade program. In August, the Democrat-controlled legislature approved a new target to reduce emissions by 40 per cent below 1990 levels by 2030, but did not include approval for the post-2020 cap-and-trade plan. (6)

Now that there will be a national carbon price in Canada and that California is reconsidering its cap-and-trade, it is time for Ontario to also rethink its carbon pricing policy. Ontario should look to California's example and embrace carbon fee and dividend nationally and scrap cap-and-trade and trade provincially.

IMPORTANT ASIDE: Note that on November 21, 2016, Nova Scotia announced it is going enter into a cap-and-trade program but not the WCI with California, Ontario and Quebec. (7)

REFERENCES:

- (1) <http://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/ccl-canada-media-packet-january-27-2015/>
- (2) <http://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/open-letter-to-the-ontario-ministry-of-environment-and-climate-change/>
- (3) <https://www.thestar.com/news/queenspark/2016/11/30/bonnie-lysyk-raises-cap-and-trade-questions.html>
- (4) https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AJR43
- (5) <http://citizensclimatelobby.org/california-congress-tax-carbon-give-revenue-households/>
- (6) <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/uncertainty-over-california-climate-plan-puts-ontario-in-precarious-position/article32152108/>
- (7) <http://globalnews.ca/news/3080181/nova-scotia-to-introduce-cap-and-trade-in-2018/>

OPTIONAL: CREATE POLITICAL WILL FOR PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

TIME SENSITIVE REQUEST! In the next two weeks help create the political will for proportional representation by filling in the survey at MyDemocracy.ca. **THIS IS A TIME SENSITIVE REQUEST!** Also be warned in advanced that it includes 30 questions about values and is worthy of some mockery.

If you find the online survey to be too cumbersome and/or annoying, email directly your MP, the Minister of Democratic Institutions, the Honourable Maryam Monsef: CDNdemocracy-democratieCDN@pco-bcp.gc.ca, and Nathan.cullen@parl.gc.ca. Share your hopes for democratic reform in Canada. A sample letter is on the next page.

Please only do this action if it aligns with your local group's strategy for creating long-term political will in your riding. This is not a top-down directive. This action is in response to the volunteers who have expressed concern about electoral reform and shared unconditionally with CCL Canada.

Many Canadian CCLers have expressed a desire for a more cooperative and less adversarial parliament. They know the climate policies we have in Canada since election 2015 - and they are not nearly enough - could get washed away in 2019. Just look south of the border to see how fast things can change at election time.



In September 2016, Bruce Hyer, former MP for Thunder Bay – Superior North, educated CCLers about Electoral reform. He made a strong case for the connection between proportional representation, cooperative governments and robust national environmental policies. Listen to the CCL Canada Education call, and discover for yourself: <https://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/ccl-canada-education-electoral-reform-and-the-climate-crisis-with-bruce-hyer/>

Resources:

- The first powerpoint: ccl-pp-bh-sept-20-2016
- The second second powerpoint: fairvote-ccl_vbh-wr-gpc-2016-09-21
- Please contact Bruce Hyer if you have any questions: bruce@brucehyer.ca
- Evidence of countries with proportional representation vs winner-take-all systems and have better track records on carbon pricing. [Patterns of Democracy](#) by Arend Lijphart.
- Find out more here: <http://www.fairvote.ca/>

FIRST PAST THE POST: the winner takes all regardless of what percentage of the votes she or he gets. Canada, USA and Britain use this system.

RANKED BALLOTS: describes certain voting systems in which voters rank outcomes in a hierarchy on the ordinal scale. Ranked ballots is not a form of proportional representation. Australia uses Ranked Ballots for their lower house: 25% of their MP's are women.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION: an electoral system in which parties gain seats in proportion to the number of votes cast for them. Most of the European union uses some form of proportional representation. Australia's senators are elected by single transferable vote – which is a type of proportional representation and 42% of their senators are women.

MIXED MEMBER PROPORATION (MMPR): It is a hybrid of our current FPTP and Proportional Representation. You get two votes: you still vote for your local MP using the FPTP system and then you also vote for a regional MP by voting for the political party and they select the representative. Germany and New Zealand both have MMPR. 32% of MPs in New Zealand are women. Germany's PM is Angela Merkel, one of the most powerful women in the world.

Be sure to document your online submissions and/or emails in our monthly field reports under: Personal Letter to Member of Congress <https://community.citizensclimatelobby.org/field-reports/>

Sample Letter:

Dear MP Lefebvre, MP Cullen and Minister Monsef,

I am grateful for the election promise to make Election 2015 the last election with First-Past-the-Post.

The climate crisis is my number one concern. I am also grateful for the national carbon tax. Let's not fool ourselves, though. Canada is not contributing its fair share of directly cutting GHG emissions and the planet is still on a dangerous trajectory for global climate collapse. We have everything we need to solve the climate crisis except political will. Electoral reform is important for securing a robust and functional democracy for the 21st century in Canada and by extension, a healthy climate.

I wrote about it the connection between electoral reform and the climate crisis [in our local paper in May 2016](#).

I also gave written and oral submissions at our local town hall on electoral reform in September. MP Lefebvre did a fantastic job facilitating the town hall. I left feeling so hopeful about democracy and proud of my community of Greater Sudbury.

Canada, the USA and Britain still use first past the post-balloting system (FPTP) - a system developed 350 years ago. In FPTP, the winner takes all regardless of what percentage of the votes she or he gets.

Most of Europe uses some form of proportional representation. The facts are governments elected by properly developed forms of proportional representation are more cooperative, elect more women and have better track records on addressing environmental issues. You can find the data in [Patterns of Democracy](#) by Arend Lijphart.

A ranked ballot system like in Australia is not the solution. The lower house in Australia is fumbling their climate legislation. They are not going to meet their [completely inadequate Paris Targets](#). As well, in [Australia only 29%](#) of their MPs are women.

I did the government survey at [mydemocracy.ca](#) and found it to be frustrating, indirect and wondered if perhaps you really wanted my opinion. I was unable to express my values with regards to electoral reform. Yesterday, my opinion was expressed in the Globe and Mail in a letter to the editor titled "**Three for three**":

Enough with the electoral reform consultations, committees and surveys. The Liberals should put into place mixed member proportional representation (MM-PR) for election 2019. MM-PR is a combination of first-past-the-post (FPTP) and proportional representation (PR).

Next, go through two election cycles with the new voting system, then put electoral change to a referendum.

This way every political party would be satisfied. The Conservatives could still have some FPTP and a referendum. The New Democrats would get a form of PR. The Liberals would fulfill their election promise of 2015 being the last election with FPTP.

Cathy Orlando, Sudbury, Ont.

We need to secure a healthy climate and a healthy democracy now. The biggest issue facing this planet in the short-term is the election of Donald Trump as president of the United States of America. Canada has to govern and lead on the climate crisis now and maintain this past the next election cycle.

We can secure a more democratic country and lead the world out of the climate crisis in the next decade with a properly designed form of PR. Please look to countries with healthy democracies. Please look to governments that elect more women than Canada, Britain, Australia and the USA do and have great track records on environmental issues.

Together we can make sure "Sunny Ways" and "Wintery Days" continue in Canada in this century.

Thanks for being on the journey from me to we! Truly, Cathy Orlando

"If you want to be incrementally better, be competitive - If you want to be exponentially better, be cooperative." - Unknown