

August 8 Guest Speaker: Dr. Kim Cobb, climate scientist at Georgia Tech



Alarmed by what their research on climate change is showing them, a growing number of scientists are stepping out of the lab to advocate for solutions. Dr. Kim Cobb, a professor at the School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at Georgia Tech, is among those speaking out. A leading expert in the study of corals and how climate change is affecting them, Dr. Cobb was devastated when, during a 2016 research trip to the South Pacific, she saw that most of the coral reef she had been studying was obliterated. "For me, it was a bellwether event... I decided to go 'all in' on climate solutions, personally and professionally."

CCL Canada August 2020 actions at a glance:

1. Continue to press for a lobbying appointment with your MP if you have not had one already. If you have already had your meeting with your MP, build political will locally by doing what floats your boats.
2. There are two online actions this month that in total, including the time to record the field reports as "letters to your member of parliament" should take less than an hour to complete. Please also promote [our parliamentary e-petition](#). It expires on August 18.

ACTION TEAM OPPORTUNITIES The **Laser Talks Booklet Action** Team will update our most important laser talks, and perhaps add a couple of new ones for a booklet to be released in time for a "going back to school" media release and our big public education push about the urgency of the climate crisis and solutions in September and October as per excellent advice in the lobbying notes. We are also seeking one person each from the Prairies and Atlantic Canada (we have members from other provinces) on the **OBPS Action Team**. We are wrapping our heads around the implications of putting natural gas produced electricity into the Part I of the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act and what actions to create as a result. If you are interested in joining either team, please email canada@citizensclimatelobby.org by August 14, 2020.

UPCOMING GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION: Fridays For Future has called for a global day of action on Friday, September 25, 2020. Follow this link for more information: <http://fridaysforfuture.org/september25>

BACK TO SCHOOL MEDIA RELEASES: Head's up in late August / early September look for the Back To School Media Releases to send onto your local newspapers.

Upcoming CCL Calls	Date and Time	Call Options
CCL Canada: All CCLers welcome. We check in with each other, share field reports, and go over monthly actions.	Option 1: Thur, Aug 6, 2020 , 6 pm PDT / 9 pm EDT Option 2: Fri, Aug 7, 2020 , 8 am PDT / 11 am EDT Option 3: Mon, Aug 10, 2020 , 6 pm PT / 9 pm ET Pick 1 only. Sign this Doodler to RSVP.	Uberconference Line (1-888-570-6238) or log in online for free . If you can't get online, please just call in.
CCL International	Sat, Aug 8, 2020 10 am PDT / 1 pm EDT	www.cclusa.org/meeting
NO CCL Canada Education Call BUT Climate Fast invites you to attend their call with Doug Pritchard to learn about Climate Interactive.	Climate Fast Call Invitation Thursday, August 20, 2020 7 pm EDT to 8:20 pm EDT <small>(Small chance of a climate town hall with MPs this summer..Not sure at all it will happen but we are not giving up. Please stay tuned via email.)</small>	https://www.facebook.com/events/902923006863253/ https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/climate-solutions-workshop-tickets-114766738404
CCL National Online Conference	Monday, November 23, all day followed by lobby days.	Save the date. Registration will open in September.

ACTION 1: Continue trying to meet with your MP or do what floats your boat if you have already done so.

Why? Meeting with your MP is the most impactful way to build a relationship.

We are lobbying our MPs until Labour day using the Leave Behind document developed by all of us collectively in the Spring of 2020. Thank you so much for your focus on lobbying for dividend cheques or bank transfers, incrementally increasing to at least 2030, economy-wide carbon pricing, and the study of border carbon adjustments and climate accountability laws. Depending on your MP, your constituency and your strengths you can select a particular ask to focus on. Here are the resources:

- [CCCL 2020 Bilingual Leave Behind](#)
- [CCCL 2020 Lobbying Resources](#)
- [Canada CCL Climate Advocate Training Presentation May 11, 2020 \(pdf\)](#)
- Here is the webpage with all the videos and resources from our National conference in May:
<https://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/ccl-canada-spring-rendez-vous/>

If you have already had your meetings please do what floats your boat.

ACTION 2: Perform Three Online Actions and Report Your Contribution.

Why? Letters can help your MP understand what their constituents want and are paying attention to with regards to climate action.

1. SEND YOUR MP A LETTER SUPPORTING CLIMATE ACCOUNTABILITY LAWS USING THE ONLINE FORM AT ECOJUSTICE CANADA

In the spring of 2019, our very smart volunteers in Canada, based on the advice of Dr. Dianne Saxe, the former Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, agreed that we needed to slightly shift our focus to not only improving Canada's carbon policy (dividend cheques or bank transfers, incrementally increasing to at least 2030, economy-wide, and study border carbon adjustments) but also include climate accountability laws. Thus, we support this action from Ecojustice Canada to ask your MP's to enshrine climate accountability under national law.:

https://www.support.ecojustice.ca/page/63016/action/1?ea.tracking.id=Website_TakeAction

Please see our July Laser Talk for some talking points:

<https://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/laser-talk-ccl-canadas-climate-accountability-recommendations/>

For additional talking points, consider our Laser Talk #3 this month.

Be sure to record this as a letter to you MP in your monthly field reports:

<https://community.citizensclimate.org/tools/field-reports>

2. SEND YOUR MP A LETTER SUPPORTING A JUST TRANSITION USING THE ONLINE FORM AT THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (CAPE)

Citizens' Climate Lobby is a signatory to the Just-recovery-for-all letter signed by hundreds of NGOs in Canada that went out in May in response to the COVID crisis:

<https://climateactionnetwork.ca/2020/05/25/breaking-progressives-release-principles-for-a-just-recovery/>

The choices our governments make will determine whether we fall back towards a carbon-intensive economy that continues to put our health at risk or move Canada forward on a path to meeting our climate targets, and ridding our economy of GHG emissions while driving investment in sustainable jobs. Use the tool below to send a message to your MP, Prime Minister Trudeau, Minister Hadju, Minister Wilkinson, and Minister Morneau, as well as the opposition party

leadership to call for a healthy recovery from COVID19. <http://cape.ca/healthy-recovery/>

You can add to the letter. For example, during the COVID recovery, Canada is spending over 7 times more on fossil fuels than on clean energy (<https://www.energypolicytracker.org/country/canada/> and LASER Talk #3 this month). Note there is a full breakdown of the subsidies in Canada on the website.

Be sure to record this submission as a letter to you MP in your monthly field reports:

<https://community.citizensclimate.org/tools/field-reports>

3. LAST CHANCE TO PROMOTE OUR PARLIAMENTARY E-PETITION

This is your last chance to promote [our parliamentary e-petition](#): #ClimateIncome #e2542 if you have not done so already. It expires on August 18. Currently, the petition has 705 signatures. Getting signatures on the petition is a great way to build political will in your region for improvements to the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act. Email blasts and social media posts are not effective unless you are a bonafide influencer. Please use the direct ask strategies outlined [the May action sheets](#). If you spend at least 2 hours online phoning people, texting or direct messaging on social media (not just posting on your social media but privately messaging people) to get signatures for the petition and getting confirmations for those signatures, please count it as an outreach event in the field reports.

<https://community.citizensclimate.org/tools/field-reports>

Here is a sample direct message that can be used via text or on social media:

Dear <Name of recipient>,

I am hoping you might do something for me today.

Do you mind signing this petition?

It is on a government website.

It is about carbon pricing.

Of course, it is evidence-based.

<https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-2542>










Here is how to sign:

1st: login / sign up at the government website

2nd: sign the Petition

3rd: click the confirmation email no-reply@petitions.parl.gc.ca "House of Commons Petitions / Pétitions de la Chambre des communes"

4th: tell me you signed it.

Sign Parliamentary e-Petition #e2542 to improve Canada's Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act		
<p>All countries must reduce GHG emissions NOW or we all face unprecedented risks to civilization</p> 	<p>Did you know Canada is admired globally for our national carbon pricing policy: a carbon fee & dividend policy?</p> 	<p>We have begun paying the true cost of carbon pollution</p> <p>Fire Drought Food Loss Floods Health Costs War Liability</p> 
<p>27 Nobel prize economists, 4 US Federal Reserve Chairs & thousands of economists support incrementally rising carbon pricing with lump sums back to the people</p> 	<p>Economics 101: Predictably increasing carbon fee decreases CO2 emissions</p> 	<p>Poor Rich</p> <p>An added bonus of carbon fee & dividend is it reduces income equality because the rich are huge CO2 consumers</p> 
<p>PROBLEM: Canada's carbon price stalls at \$50/tonne in 2022 due to political barriers</p> 	<p>SOLUTION #e2542 calls for Canada's carbon price to rise past 2022 & include cheques or bank transfers</p> 	<p>Together we can create a just recovery for all. Please sign parliamentary e-petition #e2542 a.k.a #ClimateIncome</p> 

LASER TALK #1: How to respond to an observation that climate activism makes youth anxious.

Fridays For Future has called for a Global Day of Action on Friday, September 25, 2020. During the previous days of action in September 2019, some critics have questioned the impact this is having on youth. A common theme is that we are [turning our children into anxious political activists](#).

Critics should first and foremost ask the children how they feel. They know their minds and they know what is happening. Here was what one [12-year-old in Canada advised youth last year in September 2019](#): "A few ignorant politicians have recently criticized Greta Thunberg, and maybe you feel intimidated or criticized for your activism, but remember what Greta said, 'when haters go after you, it means they have nowhere left to go and you know you are winning'."

To help the critics see the world through the eyes of youth perhaps help them consider this metaphor: When adults have financial investments they receive regular financial reports. This helps them plan for their future, including their retirement and legacy.

The youth are planning for their future. They are receiving scientific reports and the warnings are truthful that the planet is in peril and we are on course for civilization-crushing environmental impacts. It looks grim so they are protecting not just the planet but each other, especially the marginalized and all life. Kudos to them.

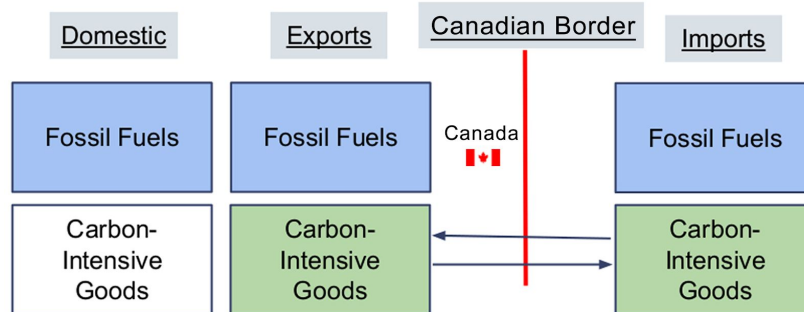
LASER TALK#2: Border Carbon Adjustments (Updated July 2020)

Our Carbon Fee and Dividend policy has a provision built in to protect trade competitiveness: a "Border Carbon Adjustment" (BCA) imposed on carbon-intensive trade-exposed goods [1,2] that cross our border in either direction. Products imported from a country that does not bear a carbon price equivalent to ours will have to pay a surcharge to make up the difference. Conversely, a Canadian-made product exported to such a country will get a refund for the carbon fee associated with its carbon footprint.

This BCA prevents Canadian manufacturers from being put at a competitive disadvantage in global markets because of the fee. It will also remove the incentive for them to relocate overseas to avoid the carbon fee. In addition, it will encourage foreign countries to adopt their own carbon fee so they would get the money instead of us. Carbon Fee and Dividend's BCA is designed to comply with international trade law. [3,4]

Note that exported fossil fuels don't get any special border treatment. Our proposal does not include a refund for Canadian-produced fossil fuels that are exported, and imported foreign oil has the same carbon fee placed on it as domestically produced oil. The BCA applies only to carbon-intensive products, not fuels.

UPDATE JULY 2020: The European Union's COVID-recovery package includes putting forward proposals for Border Carbon adjustments in the first semester of 2021 with border carbon adjustments being enacted on January 1, 2023 putting them on track to be the first government in the world to do so. [5]



An illustration of how CCL's border adjustment works. Boxes in blue are subject to the fee, boxes in green are subject to the border adjustment. Carbon intensive goods produced domestically that stay in Canada are not touched; it is assumed they will bear the burden of higher fossil fuel costs because of the upstream assessment point for our fee.

REFERENCES:

- 1) Provincial Carbon Pricing and Competitiveness Pressures. Canada's Ecofiscal Commission (November 2015)
- 2) Nicholson, M.W. "Disaggregated Analysis of Competitiveness and Employment Issues in Energy-Intensive Trade-Exposed Industries." International Trade Administration (Jun 2010).
- 3) Pauwelyn, J. "Carbon Leakage Measures and Border Tax Adjustments under WTO Law." In Research Handbook on Environment, Health and the WTO (21 Mar 2012).
- 4) "Climate and carbon: aligning prices and policies." OECD Environment Policy Paper No. 1 (Oct 2013).
- 5) EU- COVID Recovery Plan: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/45109/210720-euco-final-conclusions-en.pdf>

LASER TALK #3: Canadian public dollar investments during COVID: Fossil fuels spending seven time higher compared to clean energy

Question: How does COVID recovery investment on energy relate to a need for climate accountability laws and focusing locally?

In July 2020 a website, [Energy Policy Tracker](https://www.energypolicytracker.org/), was launched that is tracking where public money is being used during the COVID crisis. Canada is the poorest performer in terms of how much public money investments are made on fossil fuels compared to clear energy. Canada is spending almost seven times more on fossil fuels compared to clean energy as of August 5, 2020 (WARNING the website updates regularly SO CHECK BACK REGULARLY). A full and current breakdown for Canada is available [here](#).

It appears countries performing better than Canada have embedded evidence-based climate-change plans into their national laws ([Germany](#), [France](#) and [the UK](#)), have science embedded into their constitution ([India](#)), or have a stronger tendency to embrace science ([China](#) and [Japan](#)). This points to a need for climate accountability laws in Canada.

It also appears that countries with a climate-denial problem are heavy fossil fuel investors relative to clean energy ([USA](#), [Australia](#), and Canada). This points to a need for building political will one riding at a time in Canada as no one organization has the financial where-with-all to take on the climate denial machine because it probably has more money and resources than we can imagine.

References

- <https://www.energypolicytracker.org/>
- <https://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/laser-talk-ccl-canadas-climate-accountability-recommendations/>
- <https://theconversation.com/the-number-of-climate-deniers-in-australia-is-more-than-double-the-global-average-new-survey-finds-140450>

Percentage of climate change deniers by country

Australia ranks third in the world.

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