



CCL Monthly Conference Call, Saturday, September 7, 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: With your local CCL group, 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 Paul Beckwith, University of Ottawa

The month of September is the time of year when the Arctic typically reaches its minimum ice extent. To further educate ourselves about the processes governing ice extent in the Arctic, and the importance of Arctic Ice in the climate system, we're going to have Paul Beckwith as our speaker. Paul is a grad student pursuing a Ph.D. in Geography at the University of Ottawa, and a member of the Ottawa CCL Chapter. On June 7, 2012 Paul Beckwith was invited to speak on Parliament Hill in Canada at an all-party Climate Caucus event.

Actions:

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: Prime Minister Harper has prorogued Parliament until October in preparation for a throne speech. Thus, we can still contact our MPs in our home ridings and perhaps influence October's throne speech.

- 1) Updated action from July: If you have not already done so, request and plan a meeting with your Member of Parliament during the prolonged summer recess. In addition to lobbying them for carbon fee and dividend you can ask them to sign the Climate Fast Pledge and arrange a meeting between CCL and your MP on Parliament Hill during the week of Monday, November 18, 2013.
- 2) From September 21 to October 2, 2013 get involved in the Climate Fast. Plan a solidarity event on or around October 2nd, Gandhi's birthday, and ask your MP to sign the Climate Fast Pledge.
- 3) If you have already met with your MP, please arrange a meeting between CCL and your MP on Parliament Hill during the week of Monday, November 18, 2013 regardless of whether or not you can attend. The most preferred date for us to lobby them is Monday, November 18, 2013 but we will be in Ottawa until Thursday, November 21, 2013. Note our Twitter and Facebook hashtag for our first national conference and lobbying days in Ottawa is [#CCCLConf2013](#)

Action #1

Schedule meetings with Members of Parliament.

Parliamentarians will remain in their home ridings while Parliament is prorogued, giving us more opportunities to schedule face-to-face meetings. At your CCL meeting this month assign volunteers to request meetings with your MP. You can find your MP's contact information using your postal code [here](#). Be sure to contact the Constituency Office.

The purposes of the lobbying session are:

- To introduce your MP to Citizens Climate Lobby if you have not done so already.
- Ask them if they would sponsor or co-sponsor a private member's bill for Carbon Fee and Dividend.
- Request that they sign the 2013 Climate Fast pledge to end fossil fuel subsidies, put a price on carbon, and support development of a renewable energy plan for Canada. To see if your MP signed the pledge last year, go to <http://www.climatefast.ca/members-2012>.
- Request a meeting between Citizens Climate Lobby and your MP on Parliament Hill the week of November 18, 2013, preferably on the Monday.

ACTION #2a -

Plan a Solidarity Event with The Climate Fast

In the Fall of 2012, Citizens Climate Lobbyists across Canada assisted the Climate Fast. The Climate Fast conducted a successful campaign on Parliament Hill to raise awareness and promote action by our politicians on the climate. This year they will be fasting again on Parliament Hill from September 21 to October 2, 2013. Canadians concerned about climate change, including CCLers, will be spending 12 days fasting on Parliament Hill to raise public awareness and political commitment to take urgent action on Climate Change.

We are helping them again this year. They are asking the Canadian government change its climate and energy policies to reach these goals:

- End fossil fuel subsidies
- Put a price on carbon
- Support the development of a renewable energy plan for Canada

To organize an event for or around October 2nd go to <http://climatefast.ca/get-involved> for some ideas about creatively planning a day of fasting (food or carbon). Individuals can pledge to fast, and religious institutions and/or community groups could be approached about committing to a carbon or food fast.

Here are some ideas to consider for October 2nd, either as stand-alone events or in conjunction with a carbon or food fast:

- Film night: possibly 350.org's [Do The Math](#) (do not need a movie licence for public screenings) or Rob Stewart's [Revolution](#) (you need a movie licence for a public screenings but not a private one)
- Group photo with "Hungry For Climate Leadership" banner or signs, and upload to the Climate Fast Flickr page (<http://www.flickr.com/photos/87718987@N04/sets/72157635370186678/>) or tweet it to @climatefast
- Low carbon picnic or potluck featuring local foods. If held in evening, eat by candlelight! Encourage people to walk or bike to the event.
- Please report any outreach in your September monthly report due Wednesday, October 2.

ACTION #2b

Write Parliamentarians requesting that they sign the Climate Fast Pledge

Ask the volunteers who are unable to attend a meeting with your MP to send a letter asking your MP to sign the Climate Fast pledge (see sample letter below). You can find your MP's contact information using your postal code [here](#).

To see if your MP signed the pledge last year, go to <http://www.climatefast.ca/members-2012>.

Sample Letter to MPs, (from Climate Fast campaign):

Dear [Mr. | Ms] [last name],

I am writing to you, my Member of Parliament. I want you to know that I am very concerned about the impact the climate crisis will have upon our children's future and the world they live in. This crisis is accelerating and it's urgent that we act now.

***For MPs who haven't yet signed the Climate Fast Pledge, insert:** *I want to know that you will take action for three needed changes:*

***For MPs who signed the Climate Fast Pledge last year, insert:** *I appreciate your commitment to work for these changes:*

- *End fossil fuel subsidies*
- *Put a price on carbon*
- *Support the development of a renewable energy plan for Canada*

These changes will give me greater confidence in our shared future.

Can you assure me that you will work for these changes in Parliament?

Sincerely

[your name and address here]



ACTION #3

The Time is Now - Le Moment Est Venu

Canada's Citizens Climate Lobby's First Annual Conference and Lobbying Days
Saturday, November 16 - Monday, November 18, 2013, Ottawa
Four Points Sheraton - Gatineau Quebec, across the street from the Museum of Civilization,
35 Rue Laurier, Gatineau, Quebec, J8X 4E9, Canada Phone: (819) 778-6111
Official Hashtag #CCCLConf2013

- Online registration should be up by mid-September (fingers-crossed).
- Note we are lobbying all week. MPs usually return to their home ridings on Friday. Monday is our preferred day to lobby. Wednesday mornings are the Caucus meetings, thus lobbying MPs would be unlikely during that time.
- The conference agenda will be finalized late October.
- 20 rooms have been set-aside for CCL at the [Four Points Sheraton](#) at \$105.00 per night. Many thanks to Julia at CCL Ottawa for the list of conference venues in Ottawa.
- The [Ottawa Jail Hostel](#) is much less expensive and a lot of fun ... *Take your showers on Death Row... Staying at a jail is so Gandhian ...*
- For those of you who favour the Auberge experience here is a [list](#) of Auberges in Gatineau. [Auberge Un Pied A Terre](#) is the [closest one](#) to our conference venue.
- We [highly recommend](#) you make your hotel, hostel or Auberge reservations maintenant/now.
- Our Keynote Speaker is Dr. Shi-ling Hsu, the author of [The Case for a Carbon Tax](#). Mark Reynolds, CCL's Executive Director will lead the massive group start workshop at the Conference. We plan to ask a couple other people too, so stay tuned.
- Here is a [Facebook Event Page](#) to help you connect with others who will be attending the conference. This Facebook Event page is not a registration page
- We have fundraised about \$7500 so far for the conference. We will be charging an admission to the conference. Please note that none of the organizers are being paid to do this work nor are our own personal travel costs being offset.
- We welcome donations for the conference. At this point donations will be used to reduce registration fees, cover the travel costs for interns as well as tuck away money for CCCL's conference in 2014.
- CAN'T ATTEND BUT BELIEVE IN WHAT WE ARE DOING? If you would like to donate money towards the conference the best way to do so is online. CCL-USA is acting as our fiscal agent and external auditor. All donations from Canada go to Canadians. None of the donations from Canada go to salaries.
- Please note that donations towards this conference **would not be tax deductible** because lobbying is not covered as a charitable item under the rules for charities in Canada or the USA.
- To donate online please go here: <http://citizensclimatelobby.org/donations/> or alternatively you can mail a cheque to our National Headquarters in Canada at: 80 Elm Street, Sudbury ON, P3C 1T2.
- Make cheques out to Citizens Climate Lobby.

REQUEST A MEETING WITH YOUR MP

Please request a meeting between Citizens Climate Lobby and your MP on Parliament Hill during the week of November 18, 2013, preferably for the Monday. Make the request by phone and follow-up with an email. You can find your MP's contact information using your postal code [here](#). Be sure to contact the Parliamentary Office.

On the phone call:

1. Identify who you are and that you are constituent in the MP's riding.
2. Indicate that you are member of the non-partisan and international organization, Citizens Climate Lobby (see Laser Talk #1) .
3. Tell the person we are conducting a conference and lobbying days November 16-20, 2013 in Ottawa .
4. We will be lobbying our MPs for a carbon tax known as Carbon Fee and Dividend (see Laser Talk #2)
5. Request a meeting between your MP and Citizens Climate Lobby, preferably on Monday November 18, 2013 but anytime during that week.
6. Record who you spoke with and get all contact details including:
MP's Phone number on Parliament Hill
MP's Address and Office number on Parliament Hill
The best email address for your MP's staff on Parliament Hill
7. If you get an appointment or an indication of an appointment, follow-up the telephone call with an email. If you or your group has had any media hits, include them in the email.
8. If you do not get an affirmative response, be prepared to try again later.
9. If you need any coaching and empowerment, call us and join us on our CCCL calls.

Laser Talk #1

Canada's Citizens Climate Lobby

Citizens Climate Lobby is an international and non-partisan organization that empowers citizens to lobby their representatives for a revenue neutral carbon tax. Currently we have 120 chapters in North America. It was founded in the USA in 2007 by [Marshall Saunders](#) and is modeled after the international poverty reduction organization called [RESULTS](#). RESULTS is also our [sister organization](#).

Since September 2010, week after week and month after month, Canadian Citizen Climate Lobbyists have sat in on teleconference calls to educate ourselves about the various aspects of climate change including the economics, science, sociology, communication and its myriad of connections to almost everything.

Thus, after three years of building a small and effective little army of concerned citizens in Canada from almost 40 ridings, we are descending on Parliament Hill, Monday November, 18, 2013, to lobby our MPs for a carbon tax. In Canada, we are all volunteers. We have in-kind donations of educational support from the international office of Citizens Climate Lobby.

In June 2013, 22 Canadians joined approximately 350 US colleagues and lobbied the offices of 447 members of the US Congress in Washington DC for a carbon tax. We also lobbied the [World Bank](#), [International Monetary Fund](#) and the [Canadian Embassy](#) in Washington. This was Canada's CCL third year lobbying in Washington.

We have lobbied as a group in Ottawa on four separate occasions [since November 2011](#), too. In 2012 we spoke with 51 parliamentarians (provincial and federal) about our carbon tax proposal called Carbon Fee and Dividend.

Laser Talk #2

Carbon Fee and Dividend

Carbon Fee and Dividend is a revenue-neutral carbon tax works like this:

- A tax is placed on carbon-based fuels at the source (well, mine or port of entry)
- This tax increases steadily each year so that clean energy is cheaper than fossil fuels within a decade
- All of the money collected is returned to Canadian on an equitable basis
- Under this plan [66% percent of Canadian households](#) would break even or receive more in their dividend check than they would pay for the increased cost of energy, thereby protecting the poor and middle class.
- A predictably increasing carbon price will send a clear market signal which will unleash entrepreneurs and investors in the new clean-energy economy.

Laser Talk #3

The Five Chief Ways to Price Carbon

There are five ways to price carbon. They are listed from least transparent to most transparent:

- 1) **The status quo:** do not internalize the external costs of climate change and make the taxpayer for climate and health-related damages.
- 2) **Regulation:** sector by sector regulation of all the sectors in the economy that produce carbon pollution¹.
- 3) **Cap and Trade:** put a mandatory limit (or "cap") on some portion of national emissions, and allow firms to buy and sell rights to emit within the cap as well. This can be with or without offsets. A **carbon offset** is a reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide or greenhouse gases made in order to compensate for/or to offset an emission made elsewhere².
- 4) **Carbon Tax:** a tax based on greenhouse gas emissions generated from burning fuels. The tax may or may not be revenue neutral. A **revenue neutral tax** is one that does not have a net increase in overall federal tax revenues.³
- 5) **Carbon Fee and Dividend:** An incrementally increasing fee is placed on carbon pollution and 100% of the money is returned to households. The term fee is used deliberately to indicate clearly that it is a revenue neutral tax system. Carbon Fee and Dividend, as proposed by Citizens Climate Lobby, is an **upstream tax** and is levied at production of fossil fuels at the well head, mine or point of entry. A **downstream tax** is levied at the consumption of fossil fuels or on products dependent on fossil fuels.

¹ The Canadian and US government are currently both using regulatory mechanisms to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. An example is emission standards for cars and for coal-fired power plants.

² [Quebec](#), [California](#) and the [European Union](#) are jurisdictions that have implemented cap and trade with offsets to mitigate their greenhouse gas emissions.

³ [British Columbia](#), [Norway](#) and [Sweden](#) have carbon taxes.