WHO IS LAYING DOWN THE TRACKS FOR A LOW CARBON FUTURE?

On October 7, 2014, Canada’s Environment Commissioner, Julie Gelfand, expressed her disappointment that it is unlikely that Canada will meet even our weak commitments in the Copenhagen Accord and that we are only 7% of the way to achieving that goal. In her report she stated, “Overall, we found that the federal government has not provided sufficiently focused coordination to meet its commitment of achieving the national 2020 emission reduction target jointly with the provinces and territories.”

An Environics Poll released November 28, 2014 found that 78% of Canadians are concerned for the kind of legacy climate change will leave for future generations.

Since September 2010, Citizens’ Climate Lobby Canada has been building the political will for carbon fee and dividend – a revenue neutral carbon tax, where all fees collected are returned to citizens on an equitable basis. We have solid evidence that our solution will create jobs and not burden ordinary families.

It is now December 2014 and empowered CCL volunteers can be found in 51 ridings. For four consecutive Novembers in a row we have lobbied on Parliament Hill for carbon fee and dividend. From November 22-24, 2014, 68 volunteers participated in our second annual conference and lobbying days in Ottawa. They brought our job creating solution to 39 parliamentarians, three parliamentary staffs and the office of Canada’s Environment Commissioner. Also, over 1600 people have viewed our 2014 conference on You Tube. Without revealing too much, after our most recent lobbying in Ottawa, we can honestly say parliamentarians are really starting to take note of what we are saying and doing. And it is highly unlikely parliamentarians would be considering carbon fee and dividend if it were not for our educated and empowered volunteers.

CCL volunteer Liz Armstrong (Erin ON) summed up how many of us felt after lobbying in Ottawa: “Heading into the Christmas season with more hope than I can ever remember.”

Citizens’ Climate Lobby Canada is laying down the tracks for a low carbon future. Just like our nation builders did a century ago in connecting Canadians from sea-to-sea with a national railway, in the 21st Century, Citizens’ Climate Lobby is connecting citizens from sea-to-sea using modern communication technologies and building the political will for a liveable world one riding at time. Help us continue the momentum of our success toward a bigger, more powerful national campaign in Canada – one that inspires and changes the world.

Please go to our Canadian website citizensclimatelobby.ca and click on Donate to help us lay down more tracks.

“No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main. If a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friend’s or of thine own were: any man’s death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind, and therefore never send to know for whom the bells tolls; it tolls for thee.”

John Donne