

December 2019

FoSS MEMBERSHIP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER No. 64

“Dedicated to Providing Insights into Climate Science and Policies”

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please Note: Membership Dues are going up on January 1st, 2020

After eight years we needed to increase our annual membership to C\$40 and our 3 year membership to C\$80. Please [renew](#) before January 1 to get the 2019 rates and show your continued support.

Save the date:

This is the time of year we roll up our sleeves and start organizing our spring Speakers Dinner Event.

Our 17th annual event is set for April 6th, 2020.

We are hosting Donna Laframboise, a Canadian Journalist and Dr. Roy Spencer, a Principal Research Scientist at the University of Alabama.

Freedom of Speech! NO Climate Emergency!



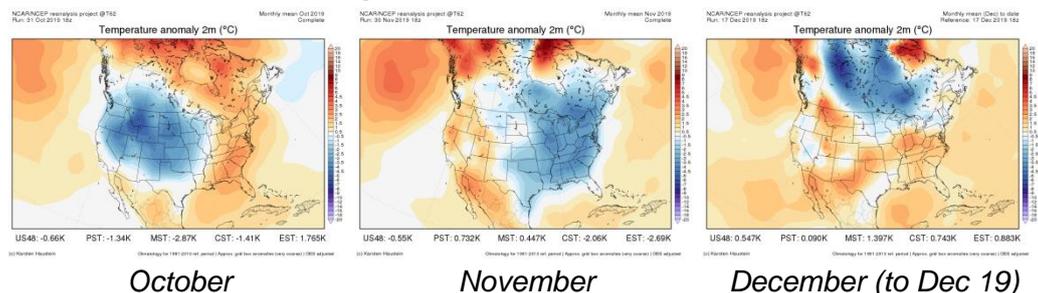
Early Bird priced tickets will go on sale January 15th, 2020

Please save April 6 and plan to come to a fun educational evening (6 to 9 pm) at the Red and White Club at McMahon Stadium in Calgary.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wow, didn't the past few months realize it's not winter yet?

Winter came early this year. October was not very friendly out west, November reminded the east what snow and ice look like, December, so far, has decided to prove that Canada is truly the land of cold.



[“Snow in Texas and ice in Alabama? Unusual cold weather could become more common”](#) is a recent National Geographic headline that got my hopes up – could it be that they may actually get their facts right? But the conclusion that “the planet is heating up, and the weather patterns to which humans have become accustomed to will continue to shift and change” deflated me completely.

Everyone has been taught about the greenhouse effect, but as [Dr. Lindzen stated in 2007](#) “many approaches are highly oversimplified”, including the traditional greenhouse ‘blanket’ model. He goes on to present that by using “a physically correct view of the greenhouse effect” the anthropogenic greenhouse “contribution to recent surface warming is on the order of 1/3”. The thesis that greenhouse gas emissions are the primary cause of Climate Change/Global Warming is the first link in the scare mongering logic chain. We must contest this flawed logic. We must redirect our efforts to create or improve technologies that clean up actual

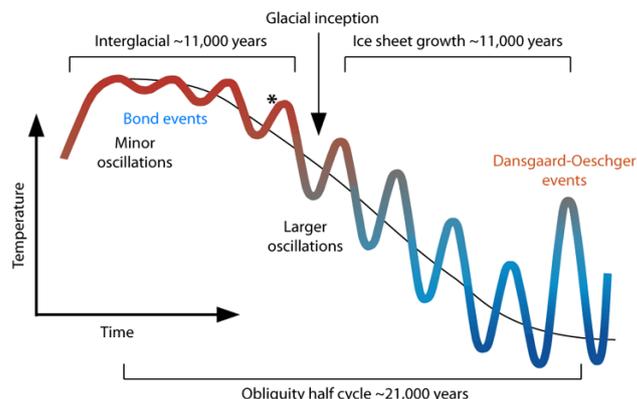
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pollution and deploy them to help other countries tackle theirs. While we are ridding the world of pollution we should also work on [ending poverty](#) by increasing the poor's access to energy.

So is it warming or is it cooling?

It is unreasonable to argue that warming has not occurred since the 1800s. Thankfully, that warming has made life considerably more bearable than the miserably cold time depicted by Charles Dickens in his classic *A Christmas Carol*, written in 1843 near the “end” of the Little Ice Age.

The diagram on the right is from a [Dr. Judith Curry](#) 2017 blog and it depicts the natural temperature oscillations that occur in interglacial and glacial periods largely driven by solar fluctuations. The asterisk marks the position in time that we are likely at presently. The preceding trough represents the cooling period we know as the Little Ice Age. Coming out of this cold period, it is clear that temperatures would have risen.



We now find ourselves at a point in time where temperatures have warmed and everyone is extremely worried that the present “warming” will continue unabated. However, this diagram shows that we will soon crest the top of this particular oscillation and we will be entering the next cooling oscillation. Therefore, what we should be worrying about is whether this next cooling trend will be larger, as depicted in the diagram, than the previous one and whether it is the trend that triggers the next glaciation.

Our ongoing appeal...

This is the time of year that we are all preparing for the holidays. Rest assured that we at FoSS are focused on being your voice for climate change science and policy. We continue to fight an information battle and we stretch every dollar we receive from you. We are in this together and more than ever we need your help. We ask you to keep repeating our messages whenever and wherever you can. Lastly, please see the fundraising section below for an update on our financial status.

I close with sincere wishes from all of us to all of you for a very merry Christmas and a joyful New Year.

Andrew Bonvicini, P.Geoph.
President, Friends of Science

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

COP25 Flops

Ten years ago [COP15](#) in Copenhagen was supposed to conclude with a binding agreement to replace the Kyoto Protocol, which [expired](#) in 2012. That agreement never happened as the conference ended in disarray with the weak [Copenhagen Accord](#) drafted in the final hours by the US, China, India, Brazil and South Africa. The Accord was “taken note of” but not “adopted” as there was no unanimous consent. It included a goal of keeping global average temperature increases below 2°C with consideration of a 1.5°C target; developed countries were to submit non-binding pledges on emissions reductions; developed countries would also provide up to \$100 billion/year by 2020 to help developing countries achieve emissions reduction and adaptation. As it turned out the failure in Copenhagen led eventually to the collapse of COP25 in Madrid.

What didn't happen in Copenhagen – a binding agreement to replace the Kyoto Protocol – was achieved at [COP21](#) in Paris. Among other things, the [Paris Agreement](#) formally adopted the 2°C/1.5°C goals, and each country undertook to determine and regularly report on its own emissions-reduction goal to mitigate global warming (“Nationally determined contribution” or NDC), with these NDCs to be revised at five-year intervals (2020, 2025, etc.) It also incorporated the \$100 billion/year by 2020 promise made in Copenhagen. A little-known and highly technical section of the Paris Agreement is [Article 6](#), which provides for cooperative mechanisms to implement NDCs, such as transferring emissions reductions between countries. While COP22 – COP24 and meetings held between COPs managed to resolve most of the issues related to the Paris Agreement's “rulebook” they were unable to agree on Article 6, which was left over from COP24 in Katowice last year, where delegates wrestled with the “[four-dimensional spaghetti](#)” of competing priorities.

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Leading up to COP25 both *Climate Home News* ([What is Article 6? The issue climate negotiators cannot agree](#)) and *CarbonBrief* ([In Depth Q&A: How Article 6 could make or break the Paris Agreement](#)) prepared detailed analyses of Article 6 issues. Some of the main ones they identified:

- Carrying forward old credits left over from the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism.
- Avoiding double counting of emission reductions.
- Transferring emission reductions across borders without generating additional cuts.
- Creating an international market to trade emission credits.
- Fears that too flexible rules would lead to no overall reduction in emissions.

COP25 originally was to take place in Brazil, but in November 2018 that country's [newly-elected president](#) backed out, citing government transition and budgetary constraints. Then Chile stepped forward, agreeing in March to [host the conference](#) in Santiago. That got derailed when a student-led protest against a fare hike on the Santiago Metro and continuing civil unrest over energy costs forced Chile's president [to cancel](#) the climate summit. There was little mention in the mainstream media that the energy price hikes (e.g., 18% increase in electricity over one year) were the result of the [government's decision](#) to curry favour with international agencies by pushing expensive energy to fight purported climate change. After Chile withdrew the government of Spain [offered to hold](#) COP25 in Madrid, still under the presidency of Chile.

On November 29 the UN issued a press release [with the heading](#) *COP25 to Be the Launchpad for Significantly more Climate Ambition*. While Article 6 was to be a key item on the agenda, other topics included loss and damage, finance ("mobilizing \$100 billion annually by 2020"), Indigenous issues, gender, and the big one – setting the stage for enhanced NDCs in 2020. The day before the conference opened UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres held a press conference [warning](#) that the world's efforts to stop climate change have been "utterly inadequate" so far and global warming could pass "the point of no return." He also noted that, while 70 countries have pledged to stop emitting more greenhouse gases before 2050, "... the world's largest emitters are not pulling their weight. And without them, our goal is unreachable." Friends of Science [released a five-minute video](#) on the serious consequences of a push for a global carbon tax in Madrid.

Mr. Guterres [opened](#) the conference with a speech that Australian MP Craig Kelly [called out](#) for the falsehoods it contained. Among them: deaths and damages from climate-related natural disasters, deaths from air pollution (falsely attributed to CO₂ emissions), that renewable generation facilities can be built without "drilling and digging," that rising sea levels are a threat to islands and coastal areas. After the opening there was no good news for the climate activists. Chile [walked back](#) on announcing a strengthened climate plan during the summit. Countries [failed to reach agreement](#) on the time frames future climate pledges should cover, or even when should they reach agreement on them. Even Greta Thunberg was downbeat as she [admitted](#) that her calls for action were ignored and her protests have achieved "nothing".

During the second week [there was rancour](#) over calls for climate reparations, with the US [pushing to ensure](#) that it can never be held accountable for climate change damage, even after it leaves the Paris Agreement next year. On Wednesday December 11, the COP president announced that 73 small and developing countries [intended to enhance](#) their climate plans, but China, India, Brazil, Saudi Arabia and Australia stayed silent. On Friday December 13, disputes over commitments to boost ambition and rules to set up a global carbon market [sent the conference](#) into overtime. On Saturday Chile [got slammed](#) by campaigners and delegates for drafting a summit text that they said risked reversing the Paris Agreement, and 31 countries [criticized](#) Australia and Brazil for wanting to use old Kyoto-era emission credits. Finally COP25 – the longest COP ever – [ended in utter failure](#) on Sunday, its one notable success being agreement on a [gender action plan](#)."

Secretary-General Guterres' [assessment](#) of the COP25 outcome was brief and blunt: "I am disappointed with the results of COP25. The international community lost an important opportunity to show increased ambition on mitigation, adaptation & finance to tackle the climate crisis. But we must not give up, and I will not give up. I am more determined than ever to work for 2020 to be the year in which all countries commit to do what science tells us is necessary to reach carbon neutrality in 2050 and a no more than 1.5 degree temperature rise."

COP25's failure augurs badly for COP26, which is to take place November 9-19, 2020 in Glasgow and is called the [most important](#) climate summit since COP21. This is because, under the [adoption of the Paris Agreement](#) (paragraphs 23 and 24), 2020 is the deadline for all parties to the Agreement to communicate

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new and more ambitious NDCs. Also, these new NDCs are to be submitted 9-12 months before COP26 (paragraph 25 – “parties shall submit ...”). According to the [NDC Registry](#) only two have done so to date (Marshall Islands and Suriname). Moreover, five days before the start of COP26 the US [will complete its withdrawal](#) from the Paris Agreement, but will be present at the conference as a UNFCCC member to protect its interests, particularly over loss and damage claims. Some of the ~195 parties still in the Agreement will use the absence of the world’s second largest emitter as an excuse not to enhance their own pledges. Also, given the fractious debates on every contentious issue at COP25 – some of which have been festering since Copenhagen – and the matters kicked down the road from Madrid, it’s possible that the Paris Agreement and even the COP process itself could founder in Glasgow.

Canada at COP25

Canada showed its ambition for the COP process by sending a team of 145 delegates, the [eighth largest](#) and outdone only by Côte d’Ivoire (348), Democratic Republic of the Congo (293), Spain (172), Brazil (218), Congo (165), Indonesia (163) and Guinea (159). Otherwise Canada kept a low profile at the conference, neither speaking out during the fractious discussions, nor making any bold commitments.

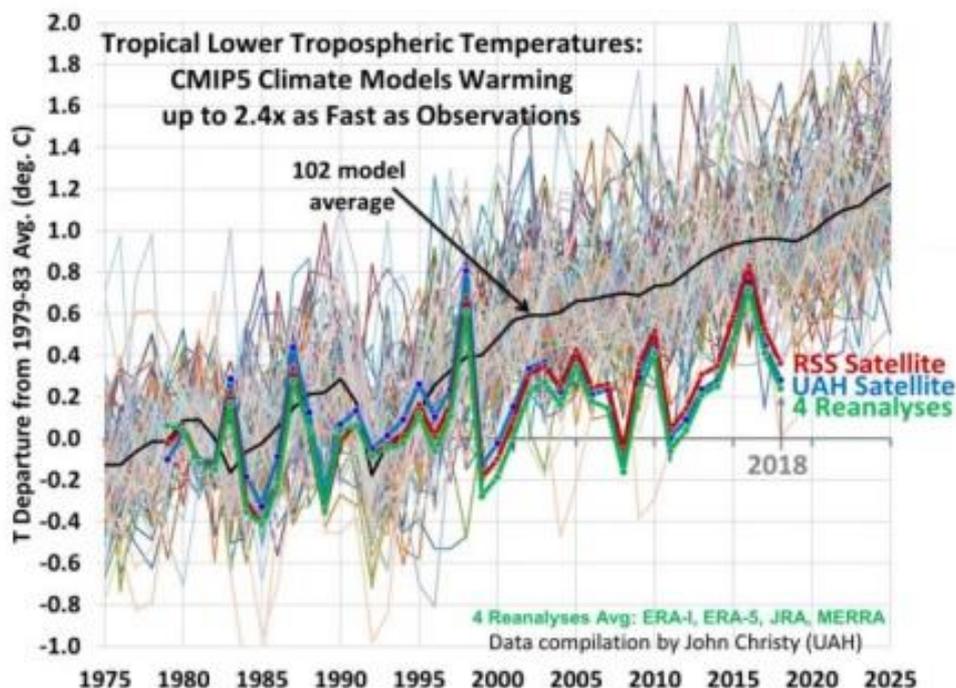
Canada was hoping to use Article 6 and exports of liquefied natural gas to Asia to earn credits for the coal they would displace there. But at COP25 the country’s environment minister, Jonathan Wilkinson, [played down](#) that scheme. The minister’s [speech](#) during the High-level Segment of the conference promised to introduce legislation for a net-zero emissions goal and said the government will “... address climate change in a way that’s empathetic and sensitive to legitimate concerns about this transition [to net-zero], including those in our hydrocarbon-producing regions.” Otherwise in Madrid the minister kept busy [getting himself photographed](#) at small gatherings.

Ian Cameron
Director, Friends of Science

SCIENCE NEWS

Climate Model Atmospheric Warming Versus Observations

Climate policy is mostly based on climate model projections that over-warm the atmosphere. Dr. Spencer has [published](#) updated graphs of models and observations in the lower troposphere which is the lowest layer of the atmosphere. Below is the chart of the lower troposphere in the tropics. Four reanalysis datasets are averaged together. The RSS and UAH satellite datasets are shown separately.



This is an apples-to-apples comparison, meaning that the models and reanalysis trends at every level in the atmosphere from the surface (101 mbar) to 1 mbar pressure level (about 30 km altitude) are weighted by the

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same weighting factors as that of the satellite data. Half of the satellite signal is from the surface to 6.0 km altitude. The trend of the UAH satellite data is almost identical to the trend of the 4 reanalysis average and that of the Russian model. A comparison of all the trends (1979 to 218) is [here](#). The UAH trend is 0.118 °C/decade, RSS trend is higher at 0.151 °C/decade and the 102 model runs average trend is 0.285 °C/decade. The model trend is 2.4 times the UAH trend. The measured trend is tiny because there are very strong negative feedbacks due to moist convection. Spencer wrote “I still believe that the primary cause of the discrepancies between models and observations is that the feedbacks in the models are too strongly positive. The biggest problem most likely resides in how the models handle moist convection and precipitation efficiency, which in turn affects how upper tropospheric cloud amounts and water vapor respond to warming.” Almost all precipitation in the mid-latitudes originates from tropical evaporation, so the fact that the models are very wrong here means that precipitation and temperatures at the mid-latitudes are also wrong.

The Cold Climate Crisis in Scotland of the 1690s

A [new study](#) investigates the socioeconomic effects in Scotland of a severely cold climate in the 1690s. A new temperature reconstruction based on tree-ring data identifies the 1690s as the coldest decade in Scotland for the last 750 years. The reconstruction was derived from living trees and lake-preserved subfossil wood material. Scotland experienced famine due to crop failures across most of the country. While the cold temperatures were near-hemispheric in areal extent, Scotland suffered the most dire consequences with the death of 10 to 15% of its population or about 100,000 people. Some regions lost perhaps 25% of their populations. The planting season saw “unseasonable... storms and cold” unlike anything they had “had here since the memory of man.” The paper shows that the suffering was exacerbated by a fragile economy and wasteful diversion of funds to a failed expedition to colonize Darien in modern-day Panama. The “Corn Act” encouraged the exportation of grains leaving little in reserve for poor harvests. Mainland Europe also suffered from crop failures and famine at this time. This episode highlights the fact that cold climates can be extremely harmful to humanity.

UN General Secretary Guterres Tells Three Inaccuracies in a Single Sentence

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said in his [COP25 opening speech](#) “Climate related disasters are becoming more frequent, more deadly, more destructive with growing human and financial cost.” None of this is true. Sky News produced [this video](#) featuring Australian Federal Liberal MP Craig Kelly who exposes the false statements. Kelly shows that climate-related deaths are “at the lowest level in history”. “There’s been a 98% decline, an incredible 98% decline since the 1930s,” said Kelly. “And this year we’ll get the lowest number of deaths from climate-related disasters, ever!” The video shows a graph indicating that climate-related disasters have fallen steadily since 2000. The cost of weather related losses as a percent of global GDP has declined from 1990 to 2019. “The UN is after cash,” Kelly says. He adds: “Now when someone makes false and misleading statements asking for cash that is called fraud.”

Ken Gregory, P.Eng.
Director, Friends of Science

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: MEMBERSHIPS AND DONATIONS

Another quarter has gone by and we are reasonably happy to report that we have eight months of operational funds in place. So as we finish 2019 we have maintenance funding to the end of August 2020.

Unfortunately, this funding will not cover the costs we will incur in April for our Spring Speakers Event. We sense we are starting to make some headway with more people paying attention, reading our information and asking questions. So, this is not the time to be forced into closing down and going away. Our ongoing fundraising appeals will remain a necessary distraction for all of us until such time as we receive significant long-term support.

We would love to hear from you if you would like to see your company’s name, or your own, promoted at our event as part of our supporting sponsors.

We are battling well-funded, often foreign or Canadian tax-subsidized,



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Environmental Nongovernmental Organizations (ENGOS). Most have significantly deeper pocketed support, some into the millions and we take them on with C\$150,000/year from yourself and the rest of our members.

We need you to help us find more members and donors! We know these are tough times but we need you to reach out to your friends, tell them the value you receive from our messaging and get them to join.

Contributions can be made at friendsofscience.org by clicking on “*Become a Member/DONATE*” in the upper right of the home page. The PayPal donation link will allow you to pay with your credit card even if you do not have a PayPal account. Should you experience technical difficulties with online processing, please try turning off any ad blocker as this sometimes interferes with the program and we do not have ads on our site. Otherwise if you prefer, you may phone us at 1-888-789-9597 Ext 2 to pay by credit card. Alternately, you can mail donations to Friends of Science at the following address:

Friends of Science Society

P.O. Box 23167 Mission P.O.

Calgary AB Canada T2S 3B1

Toll-Free Telephone: 1-888-789-9597 Ext 2

E-mail: contact@friendsofscience.org

Since you are a member and you are reading this, we make the leap that you believe in what we do and like how we do it. Our call to action for you is to please [pledge](#) an amount then **circulate this newsletter to twenty of your friends** requesting they match your donation and sign up for a membership.

It is critical that we grow FoSS's ability to get our message out. Times are hard everywhere. Donor fatigue is especially evident this year but we need your help to keep going. Help us solve our ongoing funding challenge.

VOLUNTEERING

Do you want to make a difference? For our voice to continue being heard, we need much more support. We need you! Please email us at contact@friendsofscience.org, put Volunteer in the subject and tell us what you would like to help with. Here are some of the things you could help us with...

Outreach:

Our product is information. We deliver our quality material on a very limited budget by making every dollar count. Often you will see a video or a report with a “call” for a particular governing group to act. Our communication strategy is that we send announcements for these reports or videos to various media, politicians and our membership. We count on our members and other citizens to take our reports and contact their respective politicians. Of course we also hope that the media picks up on a particular topic and promotes it. We do not have lobbyists working for us – we cannot afford them. If you are interested in volunteering to reach influencers, reporters, politicians, schools or other audiences across the country we want to hear from you.

Do you belong to a group that wants to hear a realistic position on climate change? Invite one of our speakers to present at your company, service club, local Chamber of Commerce, or other gathering. Alternatively, you can ask for one of our presentations and present it yourself. We will help you get up to speed on the issues and provide back-up support.

Many Canadians do not understand the basic issues involving climate change, and simply accept the media's misrepresentations. Real problems related to the environment continue to be ignored in the effort to vilify carbon dioxide and impose veiled consumption taxes on the world. Help us overcome this education problem.

Do you have any other creative ideas for getting our message heard? Contact us.

Fundraising:

Do you have expertise with running online fundraising campaigns? We need your help as we do not know enough about this, especially in regards to non-profit organization and ramifications with the IRS or CRA. Do you have other expertise with fundraising methods you could help us with?

Technical Experts:

Are you tired of reading or seeing scientific gibberish in the main stream media? Are you an accredited scientist and want a platform to speak your mind on climate science? We want to hear from you. We would love to have more science experts to help us with our messaging.

This debate matters, you are making a difference.

MICHELLE’S BREAKING NEWS!



[Fear and Loathing - How the Alberta Oil Sands went from National Pride to International Pariah](#)

Our report and video provide an overview of the Tar Sands Campaign. This is our response to persistent efforts by mainstream media to delegitimize the work of Vivian Krause and the Alberta government’s efforts to establish its ‘war room’ to counter misinformation.



[Fear and Loathing: Rebutting Tzeperah on Tar Sands Campaign](#)



[AN INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE CONVENTION: WHO CUTS? WHO PAYS?](#)

In his 2015 report, Robert Lyman anticipated the conundrum of Article 6, the ‘who cuts, who pays’ clause, that collapsed the COP25. We still see the push for a Global Carbon Tax Law as a serious risk to Canada and the free world in general.



[Global Carbon Tax Law Serious Consequences for Canada and Democracy](#)



Robert Lyman: [Climate Change Policy and Rural Canada - A Tale Of Three Cities](#)

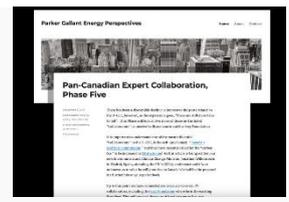
While polls reveal that many Canadians in the east or Atlantic Canada are unmoved or ignorant of the economic devastation going on in western Canada, this report focuses on three rural communities in the Atlantic provinces, and likely impacts of climate change policy there.

[CLINTEL meets with European Parliament: Delivers NO “Climate Emergency” Declaration](#)

The CLINTEL group now has over 700 scientist and professionals who are signatories to the NO Climate Emergency declaration. Their efforts showed success in late November when they presented the declaration to members of the European Parliament, and subsequently one third of the EU members voted *against* declaring a climate emergency.



Parker Gallant is a retired international banker who took an interest in the skyrocketing power prices in Ontario and has exposed the rabbit warrens of cooperation and collusion on pushing carbon taxes onto Canadians. He has completed a series (Phases: [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#), [Grand Finale](#)) on the incredible network of tax-subsidized foundations and charities that are working against taxpayers by pushing the Ecofiscal view on carbon taxes.



[Carbon Tax “Experts” Conning Canadians – Parker Gallant](#)

[Analysis of Climate Feedback Response to 500 Scientists’ Declaration to UN “There is No Climate Emergency”](#)

Our video and blog rebuttal to facebook censoring our [No Climate Emergency Say 500 Scientists To UN](#) video as ‘fake news’ and downgrading of our Facebook page, based on a review by “Climate



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Feedback” – a group certified by the International Fact Checking Network of Poynter Institute – consisting of a bunch of journalists, certifying a group of self-promoting scientists.

[Climate Feedback "EXPOSED"](#)

Some of Our Latest YouTube Videos:



["I don't want to die!"
Climate Exploitation of
Children](#)



[Ecojustice - How is this
Charitable Activity?](#)



[The Roots of Global
Warming](#)



[We're Saved – More
than 12 Years, Here's
Why](#)



[Foreign Fingers in the
Pie](#)



[Greta Thunberg's Secret
to Success](#)



[Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year](#)



[Censoring Climate Now](#)

Many more reports are summarized here: [A compilation of our all time favourites](#)

And you can find a compilation of Lyman's key Green Agenda [reports on our blog](#).



Still haven't subscribed to our blog? Don't delay. It's easy and best of all FREE! Enter your email on the [home page of the blog](#) and click Subscribe. That's it. Now you will get an update as soon as a new blog is posted.

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Please continue to share our materials by email, social media or in any way you can.