

# The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Friends of Science Luncheon



## The UN's Climate Change Panel: Activist and Untrustworthy

Featuring: **Donna Laframboise**

Author, Investigative Journalist

Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012

11:30 am

Metropolitan Conference Centre  
333 – 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta



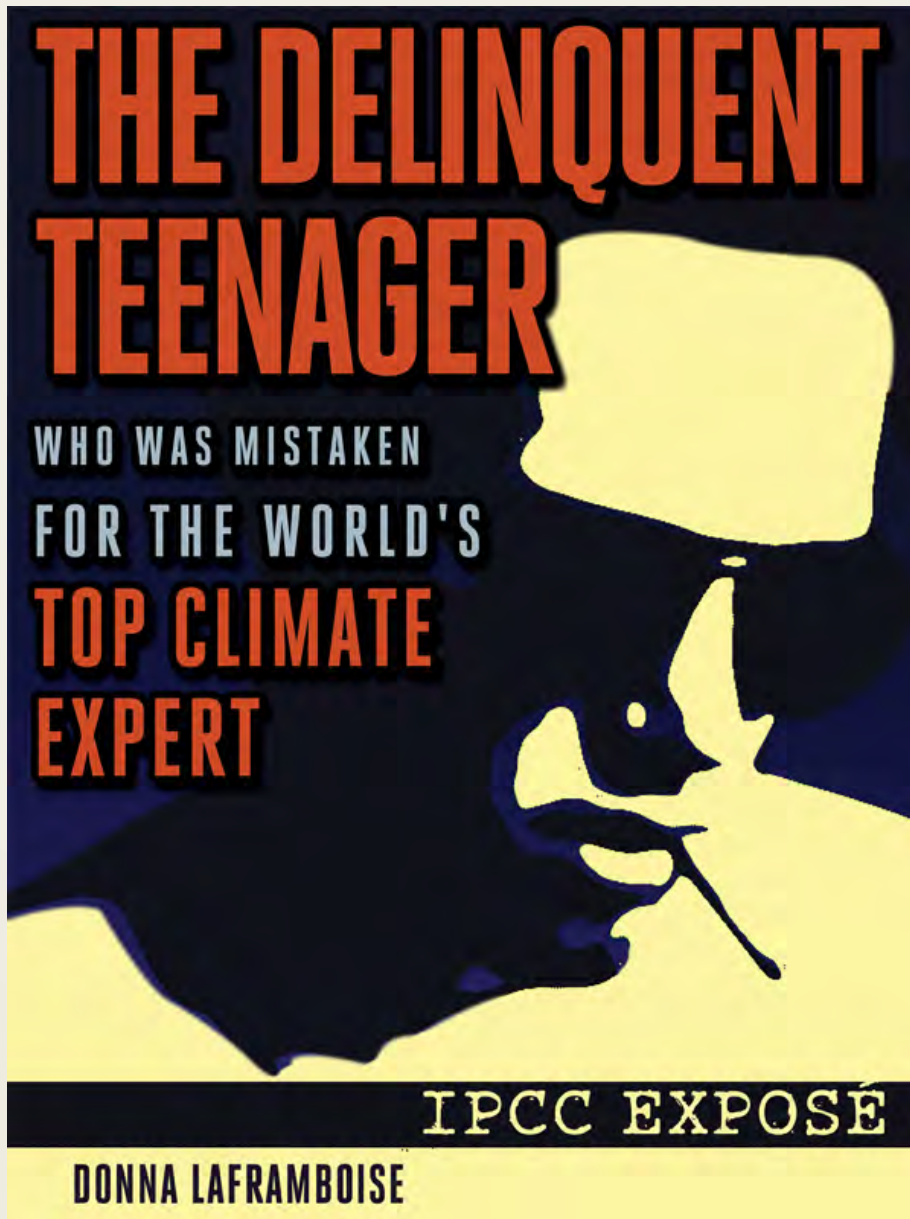
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[www.friendsofscience.org](http://www.friendsofscience.org) or

Call: (403) 708-3614





## The UN's Climate Change Panel: Activist & Untrustworthy

Donna Laframboise,  
investigative journalist  
[NoFrakkingConsensus.com](http://NoFrakkingConsensus.com)

November 23, 2011

Mr. [REDACTED]

Edmonton, Alberta

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

Premier Alison Redford forwarded me a copy of your letter dated October 25, 2011, regarding the correspondence to the United States Environmental Protection Agency about climate change. Premier Redford has reviewed your comments and asked me to respond on behalf of the Government of Alberta.

The provincial government acknowledges the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; however, we encourage continued research into the science behind global warming. Climate change is an evolving issue and Alberta Environment and Water is working to understand how we can improve our policies to meet Alberta's unique needs.

The Government of Alberta will continue to explore and implement actions that support the sustainable development of Alberta's resources. When creating and implementing our policies and programs, we are careful to consider relevant science. For more information about Alberta's approach to climate change, please visit our website at: [www.environment.alberta.ca](http://www.environment.alberta.ca).

Sincerely,



Diana McQueen  
Minister

c.c. Hon. Alison N. Redford, QC  
Premier



# facts about climate change

## climate change considerations

Pick up a newspaper, listen to the radio or watch television and rarely will a day go by when there isn't a story about climate change and its impact on different parts of the world.

Stories range from predictions of dire consequences in the not-too-distant future to positive messages about what people can do to reduce their own use of energy.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is a United Nations group that includes more than 3,000 scientists around the world. The Panel issues comprehensive report cards on climate change. Visit [www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch).

While some aspects of climate change have been controversial in the past, scientists around the world who sit on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change now agree on these key points:

- > Climate change is real. Our planet is warming and it's doing so at a faster pace than at any other time in our recorded history.
- > It's very likely that human activities are to blame for most of the warming in the past 250 years.
- > While the impact of climate change takes place over many years, we are seeing the impact of higher global temperatures now and, as temperatures continue to increase in the coming years, we will see more heat waves, floods, droughts and rising sea levels.

Higher levels of precipitation could boost agricultural productivity in some areas and decrease it in others. However, most suggest that on a global basis, the longer term impacts will be much more negative. These shifts will test our ability to adapt to a changing environment.

Generally, experts agree that:

- > By 2100, global temperatures could rise between 1.1 and 6.4 degrees Celsius depending upon actions taken. This could mean that the Greenland ice sheet disappears over millennia if current melting continues.
- > By 2100, sea levels are forecast to rise by about one third of a metre. This would have a serious impact on coastal areas including the Mackenzie Delta in the Western Arctic, the Fraser Delta outside Vancouver, and the Atlantic provinces.
- > More severe storms and floods are likely, especially in coastal areas. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change forecasts there will be 10 to 40 per cent more intense storms by the end of this century.
- > Some parts of the globe will become drier, with more prolonged droughts.
- > Most of the world's endangered species may become extinct as a result of warmer conditions in forests, wetlands and rangelands. Warming of two degrees could leave 15 to 40 per cent of species facing extinction.
- > Higher temperatures could expand the range of some dangerous diseases such as malaria.

### We can take steps to adapt

Climate change occurs over decades and we don't know for certain what will happen. The impacts we're seeing today are the result of a combination of factors occurring over many years in the past. And the impact of the actions we take today may not be felt for many years to come. A report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change concluded that significant warming will continue for centuries "even if greenhouse gas concentrations were to be stabilized." However, this shouldn't stop us from acting. We need to identify and move forward with reasonable measures that will decrease future risks.

While we can't turn things around in the short term, actions can be taken to adapt to changes we're seeing today and are likely to see in the future. This gives us opportunities to act now, reduce our impact and develop new technologies for energy use.

Typically, these are called "adaptation" strategies. They involve taking steps to adapt to a changing climate, manage short- and longer-term risks and take advantage of opportunities to build a more sustainable environment.

Adaptation strategies start with a clear understanding of the impact of climate change today and how vulnerable we are to potential changes in Alberta's climate.

The next step is to determine what can be done now to adapt to and reduce some of the negative impacts and also to develop new technologies and approaches which not only would be beneficial in Alberta but could be marketed or shared around the world.

# Triple price of gas to save planet, climate expert argues

BY MARGARET MUNRO, POSTMEDIA NEWS JUNE 9, 2011

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STORY

PHOTOS ( 1 )



Canadians may abhor the rising price of gasoline, but Thomas Stocker suggests the planet might be better off if it soared to "three to four" times its current level.

Photograph by: Simon Dawson, Bloomberg

Canadians may abhor the rising price of gasoline, but Thomas Stocker suggests the planet might be better off if it soared to "three to four" times its current level.

"This is scandalous, I know," said Stocker, adding sky-high gasoline could help slow the climate change which world leaders have declared one of the greatest challenges of our time.

## MORE ON THIS STORY

[Nature won't wait for climate deal, warns UN chief](#)

['Bad news' on global warming before key talks](#)

[Dire climate warning locked in ancient rocks](#)

## STORY TOOLS

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Font:

*Vancouver Sun* news story built around an interview with Thomas Stocker, co-chair of the IPCC's Working Group 1 (the 'hard science' section)

Page last updated at 02:10 GMT, Sunday, 7 September 2008 03:10 UK

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## Shun meat, says UN climate chief

By Richard Black

Environment correspondent, BBC News website



GETTY IMAGES

Livestock production has a bigger climate impact than transport, the UN believes

**People should consider eating less meat as a way of combating global warming, says the UN's top climate scientist.**

Rajendra Pachauri, who chairs the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), will make the call at a speech in London on Monday evening.

UN figures suggest that meat production puts more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere than transport.

Environment > Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

## Western lifestyle unsustainable, says climate expert Rajendra Pachauri

Ahead of the Copenhagen summit, leading scientist and IPCC chair Rajendra Pachauri warns of radical changes and regulation if global disaster is to be avoided

James Randerson

The Observer, Sunday 29 November 2009

[Jump to comments \(34\)](#)



Rajendra Pachauri accepts the Nobel prize on behalf of the IPCC in 2007. Photograph: AFP/Getty Images

Hotel guests should have their electricity monitored; **hefty aviation taxes should be introduced to deter people from flying**, and iced water in restaurants should be curtailed, the world's leading climate scientist has told the *Observer*.

Rajendra Pachauri, the chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), warned that **western society must undergo a radical value shift** if the worst effects of **climate change** were to be avoided. A **new value system** of "sustainable consumption" was now urgently required, he said.

IPCC chairman Rajendra Pachauri wants to change not just your lifestyle but your *values*



## 2 reasons why the IPCC can't be trusted

- who writes its reports
- overall structure of the organization





who writes IPCC reports?  
– according to the media

"the world's top climate scientists..."  
*Associated Press science writer, Seth Borenstein, Nov. 2011*

"The world's top scientists..."  
*Geoffrey Lean, The Independent, Oct. 1995*  
*Geoffrey Lean, Environment Editor, The Independent, Nov. 2007*



according to green NGOs

"The world's leading scientists..."

*World Wildlife Fund, Feb. 2007*

"the world's brightest scientists..."

*(US) League of Conservation Voters, Dec. 2007*



"These are people who have been chosen on the basis of their track record, on their record of publications, on the research that they have done...They are people who are at the top of their profession..."

*Rajendra Pachauri, June 2007*

# 20-something graduate students



## **Richard Klein**

IPCC lead author at age 25 (1994)  
coordinating lead author at age 28 (1997)  
completed his PhD in 2003

## **Laurens Bouwer**

lead author in 1999  
earned Masters in 2001 and PhD in 2010



## **Sari Kovats**

one of only 21 people chosen to write about climate  
change & human health in 1994  
first academic paper published in 1997  
received her PhD in 2010 – 16 years after first  
becoming involved with the IPCC  
now an AR5 coordinating lead author



# Professional activists



## **Richard Moss**

involved with the IPCC for 20 years

- during part of that time he was employed as a Vice-President of the World Wildlife Fund

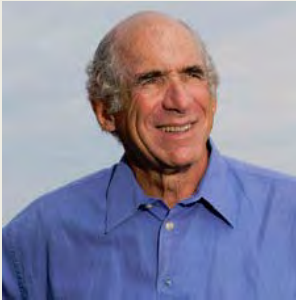
## **Bill Hare**

considered a Greenpeace 'legend'

- one of only 40 people on the IPCC's "core writing team" for the 2007 *Synthesis Report*



# More professional activists



## **Michael Oppenheimer**

employed for 20 years by the  
Environmental Defense Fund  
continues to advise them

now leads AR5 chapter (WG2-19)



## **Jennifer Morgan**

used to be the WWF's chief spokesperson  
on climate change

now an AR5 review editor (WG3-13)



# WWF infiltrates the IPCC

- in 2004 (as work on AR4 was beginning) the WWF began recruiting IPCC personnel
- by 2008 it had persuaded 130 "leading climate scientists mostly, but not exclusively" from the IPCC to join its own panel
- at a time when these scientists were supposed to be objectively examining evidence they got into bed with professional lobbyists





# Overlap or invasion?



two-thirds of AR4 chapters included at least one WWF-affiliated scientist (28 out of 44)

- ◆ one-third were led by a WWF-affiliated scientist (15 of 44)
- ◆ in the chapter that concluded 20-30% of the world's species are threatened with extinction *both* coordinating lead authors sit on the WWF's panel (WG2-4) – 8 people in total linked to WWF



- ◆ WWF calls this "some overlap"
- ◆ I call this an invasion







## 2 reasons why the IPCC can't be trusted

- **who writes its reports** (students, activists, scientists linked to green lobbyists)
- overall structure of the organization



## 2 reasons why the IPCC can't be trusted

- who write its reports (students, activists, scientists linked to green lobbyists)
- **overall structure of the organization**



# IPCC's self-description

(from website)

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the leading international body for the assessment of climate change. It was established by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1988 to provide the world with a clear **scientific** view on the current state of knowledge in climate change and its potential environmental and socio-economic impacts. In the same year, the UN General Assembly endorsed the action by WMO and UNEP in jointly establishing the IPCC.

**The IPCC is a scientific body.** It reviews and assesses the most recent **scientific**, technical and socio-economic information produced worldwide relevant to the understanding of climate change. It does not conduct any research nor does it monitor climate related data or parameters.

Thousands of **scientists** from all over the world contribute to the work of the IPCC on a voluntary basis. Review is an essential part of the IPCC process, to ensure an objective and complete assessment of current information. IPCC aims to reflect a range of views and expertise. The Secretariat coordinates all the IPCC work and liaises with Governments. It is supported by WMO and UNEP and hosted at WMO headquarters in Geneva.

The IPCC is an intergovernmental body. It is open to all member countries of the United Nations (UN) and WMO. Currently 195 countries are members of the IPCC. Governments participate in the review process and the plenary Sessions, where main decisions about the IPCC work programme are taken and reports are accepted, adopted and approved. The IPCC Bureau Members, including the Chair, are also elected during the plenary Sessions.

Because of its **scientific** and intergovernmental nature, the IPCC embodies a unique opportunity to provide rigorous and balanced **scientific** information to decision makers. By endorsing the IPCC reports, governments acknowledge the authority of their **scientific** content. The work of the organization is therefore policy-relevant and yet policy-neutral, never policy-prescriptive.



# a closer look

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## paragraphs 4 and 5

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**A report of Working Group I of the  
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change**

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**Summary for Policymakers**

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**Drafting Authors:**

Richard B. Alley, Terje Berntsen, Nathaniel L. Bindoff, Zhenlin Chen, Annat Chidthaisong, Pierre Friedlingstein, Jonathan M. Gregory, Gabriele C. Hegerl, Martin Heimann, Bruce Hewitson, Brian J. Hoskins, Fortunat Joos, Jean Jouzel, Vladimir Kattsov, Ulrike Lohmann, Martin Manning, Taro Matsuno, Mario Molina, Neville Nicholls, Jonathan Overpeck, Dahe Qin, Graciela Raga, Venkatesh Ramaswamy, Jiawen Ren, Matilde Rusticucci, Susan Solomon, Richard Somerville, Thomas F. Stocker, Peter A. Stott, Ronald J. Stouffer, Penny Whetton, Richard A. Wood, David Wratt

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summaries only *drafted* by scientists

## Food, Water Security Threatened by Warming, Panel Chief Says

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By Alex Morales

March 28 (Bloomberg) -- The loss of food and water security is one of the most immediate threats posed by global warming, the head of a United Nations **panel** said before publication of the most detailed report on the subject.

The greatest risks include "irreversible" and "abrupt" changes such as the melting of the Greenland ice sheet and an interruption of the ocean circulation that drives the Gulf Stream, **Rajendra Pachauri**, who leads the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, said late yesterday.

### Publication Delay

On Feb. 2, the panel said in its first of the four reports temperatures have risen by 0.76 degrees Celsius (1.37 Fahrenheit) since the 19th century, and will rise by another 1.1 to 6.4 degrees this century. It also said global warming is "very likely" caused by people, based on scientific evidence.

The panel has yet to release the full scientific report that forms the basis of the "summary for policymakers" issued last month, leading to charges that the process is politicized and the science is being amended to conform to the policy document. The process is "transparent," and the report will likely come in the next two weeks, Pachauri said.

"The draft that was submitted to the plenary and what came out of it are not substantially different, but we necessarily have to ensure that the underlying report conforms to the refinements," Pachauri said, adding that scientists were present and able to comment at the meeting of government officials that negotiated the summary's wording.

"That's the strength of the IPCC: really it would mean that one particular country or a group of countries would have to bamboozle everybody else to bring about radical changes that don't have a basic rationale behind them," Pachauri said. Still "this point is well taken, and in the next two reports you won't see this kind of delay," he said.

To contact the reporter on this story: [Alex Morales](#) in London at [amorales2@bloomberg.net](mailto:amorales2@bloomberg.net).

“we necessarily have to ensure that the underlying report conforms to the refinements”

- IPCC chairman Pachauri, March 2007

# Is this really how science is done?

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AR 46377

November 23, 2011

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Edmonton, Alberta

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Sincerely,

Diana McQueen  
Minister

c.c. Hon. Alison M. Redford, GC  
Premier

Presented to:

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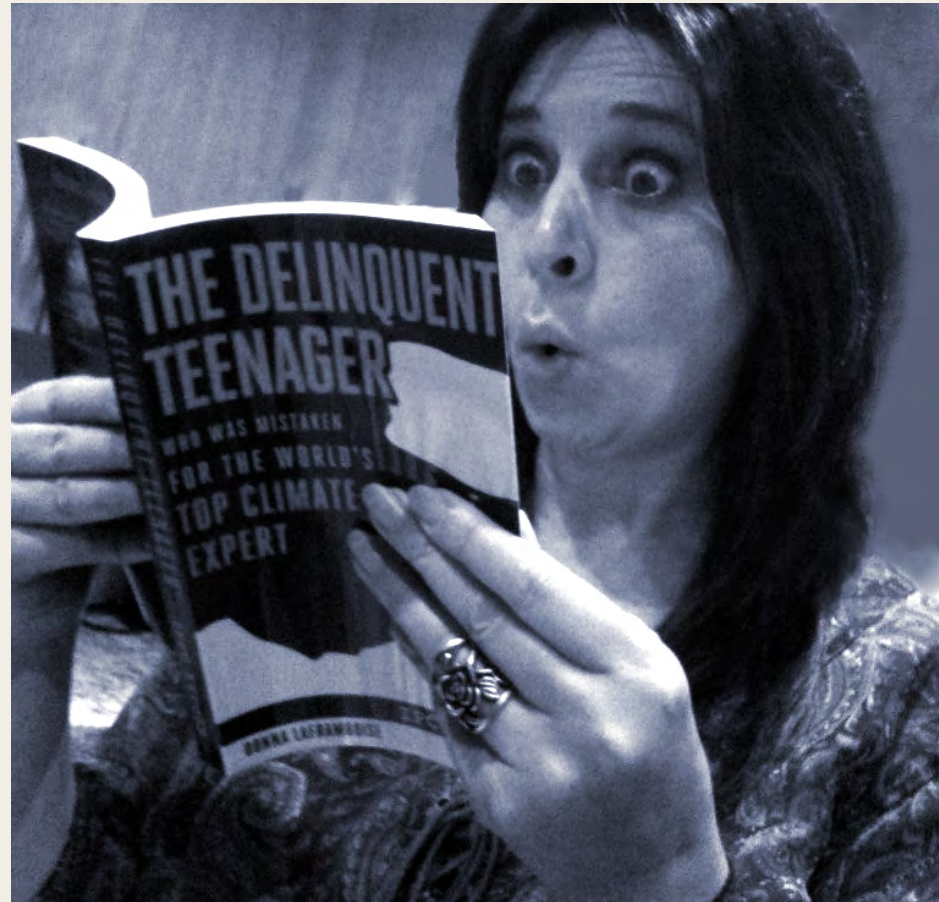
Metropolitan Conference  
Centre, Calgary

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Definitions:

AR4 – IPCC Assessment Report 4  
(released in 2007)

AR5 – IPCC Assessment Report 5  
(expected in 2013-14)



*TinyUrl.com/IPCC-book*  
*Donna's blog: NoFrakkingConsensus.com*

