

March 15, 2008

**FOS MEMBERSHIP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER  
No. 17**

***“FOS is dedicated to providing the public with insight into Climate Change”***

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**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

These are exciting times for The Friends. We are of the opinion that global temperatures are mainly determined by solar activity. Solar cycle 23 has ended and the next cycle is still quiescent. According to our understanding the planet’s atmosphere should, in consequence, be showing signs of a cooling trend. And the recent evidence is consistent with our expectations.

The world has seen some extraordinary winter conditions in both hemispheres over the past year: snow in Johannesburg and Buenos Aires last June and Baghdad in January, Arctic sea ice returning with a vengeance after a record retreat last year, paralyzing blizzards in China, record snow falls in Ontario and a sharp drop in the globe’s average temperature. The fears of dangerous human-caused global warming appear to be unfounded. This evidence is providing a teachable moment.

The Friends are therefore currently planning a radio campaign within Alberta to help educate listeners concerning the science of climate change and to direct them to our web site ([www.friendsofscience.org](http://www.friendsofscience.org)) where we have the latest information about global climate changes. We hope that we may in this manner contribute to a debate about issues surrounding Kyoto and the associated wastefulness of our resources. This is a debate which Kyoto proponents want to avoid. They are unwilling to defend their ideas though they insist that we spend national treasury on their implementation.

Plans are proceeding for our fifth annual luncheon to be held on Friday May 2, 2008 (see attachment). Patrick Michaels, our feature speaker is a senior fellow at the CATO Institute and Research Professor of Environmental Science, University of Virginia. Professor Michaels has often appeared on national television in support of his ideas about the natural induced patterns in global climate change. His topic will be: “Global Warming: Some Convenient Facts.” Peter Holle president of the Frontier Centre for Public Policy has agreed to introduce him. The venue, at the Metropolitan Conference Centre, has a capacity for 300 guests.

We have recently received a DVD copy of Lord Christopher Monckton’s address to Cambridge Student’s entitled “Apocalypse? NO! : Why Global Warming is not a Global Crisis.” It is about 35 minutes long and presents compelling arguments in support of his topic.

Lord Monckton is well known for his efforts to have Al Gore debate and defend his views concerning AGW. He was one of the driving forces in the successful law suit in the UK when the Judge forced the Education Department to address a number of critical errors in Gore’s video before it could be shown in schools. He plans a tour of American Universities in the autumn. The Friends are attempting to raise monies to have him lecture in Canada at that time.

Douglas Leahey PhD  
President, Friends of Science

## POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

The sceptics' case was presented at an international conference held March 2-4 in New York City. Hundreds of the world's leading scientists, economists, and policy analysts explored the key issues overlooked by advocates of the theory of man-made global warming.

(<http://www.heartland.org/NewYork08/ConferenceProgram.pdf>) They were addressed by such outstanding individuals as professor Patrick Michaels, Lord Christopher Monckton, Vaclav Klaus, president of the Czech Republic and Yuri Izrael, science advisor to Vladimir Putin, president of the Russian Republic. Media coverage in the United States was extensive and mostly favourable. There was, regrettably very little Canadian media coverage of the event.

The International Climate Science Coalition (ICSC) was formed some months ago on the initiative of the New Zealand climate sceptics group ([www.climatescienceinternational.org/](http://www.climatescienceinternational.org/)). They were present at the recent New York "Heartland" Conference where they presented the Manhattan Declaration" (see attachment). It is now open for all signatures.

The Czech Republic may block the European Commission's plan to auction carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions permits to energy companies after 2012, government officials said on Tuesday.

--Reuters, 4 March 2008

Germany stepped up its fight against a planned European Union cap on carbon dioxide from cars in a bid to limit the cost for luxury automakers including Daimler AG and Porsche SE of countering climate change.

--The Star, 4 March 2008

Several former Eastern-bloc European Union nations on Monday criticised proposals from the European Union's executive arm for new measures to slash the continent's greenhouse gas emissions. While most ministers and officials representing the 27 EU countries gave broad backing to a package of measures proposed by the European Commission, some warned it could lead to job losses and rising energy costs.

--EU Business, 3 March 2008

More developed and less developed countries are taking opposite sides on issues like carbon dioxide reduction. Whatever the result, it's sure to mean one thing: delays

--Deutsche Presse Agentur, 6 March 2008

The World Economic Forum was meant to give a leading role to climate change but coverage of the events was completely dominated by discussions about what was happening on Wall Street. Environmentalists and other campaigners fear that sustainability and wider corporate social responsibility (CSR) issues are falling off the boardroom agenda as businesses tighten their belts in the face of turbulent stock markets, the credit crunch and a looming economic slowdown.

--Terry Macalister, The Guardian, 6 March 2008

## SCIENCE NEWS

There have been many recently published scientific articles which are pertinent to climate change issues. The following three publications are perhaps of most interest to the Friends.

**Ross McKittrick and Patrick Michaels, December 2007, "Quantifying the Influence of Anthropogenic Surface Processes and Inhomogeneities on Gridded Global Climate Data", *Journal of Geophysical Research*, Volume 112**

**Abstract:** The major global temperature indexes are adjusted to correct for the effects of urbanization. If the adjustments were adequate, there should be no statistically significant correlation between the temperature record and social economic indicators. The paper shows that there is a strong correlation between urbanization and temperature and that the adjustments are inadequate.

The conclusion is: Fully correcting the surface temperature data for "non-climatic effects reduce the estimated 1980-2002 global average temperature trend over land by about half."

**Steve McIntyre, March 2008, "Positive and Negative Urban Adjustments", *Climate Audit*, [www.climateaudit.org](http://www.climateaudit.org)**

**Abstract:** An audit by Steve McIntyre reveals that NASA has made urban adjustments of temperature data in its GISS temperature record in the wrong direction. The temperatures in urban areas are generally warmer than in rural areas. McIntyre classified the 7364 weather stations in the GISS world-wide network into various categories depending on the direction of the urban adjustment. Of the weather stations that are classified as urban and has only a positive or negative adjustments, NASA has applied a "negative urban adjustment" to 45% of the stations, meaning that the adjustments makes the warming trends steeper. The urban adjustment is supposed to remove the effects of urbanization, but the NASA negative adjustments increases the urban effects. The result is that the surface temperature trend utilized by the IPCC is exaggerated.

**D. Douglass, J. Christy, B. Pearson and F. Singer, December 2007, "A comparison of Tropical Temperature Trends with Model Predictions", *International Journal of Climatology*, *Royal Meteorological Society***

**Abstract:** The authors analyzed the simulation results from 22 climate models at the surface and at 12 different altitudes. The simulation results were compared to the temperature trends determined from two analyses of satellite data and four radiosonde datasets for the period January 1979 through December 2004. Douglass et al. conclude that "Model results and observed temperature trends are in disagreement in most of the tropical troposphere, being separated by more than twice the uncertainty of the model mean. In layers near 5 km, the modeled trend is 100 to 300% higher than observed, and, above 8 km, modeled and observed trends have opposite signs."

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## COMMENTARY ON THE IPCC

One might ask the question: "How long will the IPCC establishment be able to continue ignoring or denying the evidence which is mounting against its main hypothesis of Anthropogenic Global Warming?"

Consider the following:

- To this day the IPCC has failed to produce any evidence for AGW beyond the outcome of computer simulation studies which are designed to incorporate an increasing CO<sub>2</sub> greenhouse effect as cause for catastrophic global temperature rise in the first place.
- It is now clear - based on data from the four main global temperature recording sources - which the past twelve months saw a temperature drop of a magnitude that wiped out any temperature increase of the past century.
- It is also recognized that - since the *el Niño* peak of 1998- no increase in temperature has taken place. Global temperatures have been steady to declining over the last six years, while in the Southern Hemisphere a strong cooling trend has set in.
- There is much criticism of the basic values used as input in the IPCC's studies: It has been found that large numbers of weather stations in the US are deficient in terms of siting and other measuring requirements, (particularly those in expanding urban areas where most are located) resulting in higher than actual temperature numbers being reported. At the same time much doubt has been thrown on the existence of a steady low pre-industrial CO<sub>2</sub> content of the atmosphere by Beck's study of 180 years of actual chemical measurements indicating natural CO<sub>2</sub> variations peaking around 1910 and 1940.
- Sceptics and realists among an increasing number of scientists are actively debating (and disagreeing on) the various theories of radiative transfer and absorption of the incoming solar radiation.
- The influence of Cosmic Ray levels on cloud formation (reported in our last letter) is being quantified and getting more widely accepted. CR strength is depending also on the movement of the solar system through the outer spiral arms of the Milky Way Galaxy
- A very interesting field has been re-opened in the area of solar system dynamics. While 80 years ago, Milankovitch investigated the earth's orbit and earth axis movements and found an explanation for the major glacial cycles, his shortest cycle was 21,000 years. New work is concentrating on the forces that planetary alignments exert (particularly when involving heavy Jupiter) on the movements of the sun around the solar system's centre of gravity. These cycles are much shorter and affect solar electromagnetic radiation received on all planets.

The IPCC has been trivializing astrophysical factors for years. Investigating them was not in their mandate. Even today, they are ignoring the obvious. The agency now tries to explain the non-congruence of CO<sub>2</sub> and Temperature curves by inventing ready-made extraneous stop-gaps, such as sudden aerosol appearances, oceanic changes and other excuses.

One may reasonably ask how long this game can last.

Albert Jacobs  
Past Director, Friends of Science

## DONATIONS

We are very proud of the work we've done so far, but we still have a long way to go in our efforts to impact public opinion on the climate change issue. Our concern is that public opinion has suffered from political manoeuvring and biased focus groups. We should not be wasting valuable resources on a hypothetical problem when we have many **real** problems that need addressing: better educational system, more money for health care, better infrastructure, better equipped military, etc.

We have developed plans for the upcoming year, to emphasize the fact that CO<sub>2</sub> and greenhouse gas emissions have only a minor influence on climate change. We are therefore asking our members for their financial support, which is badly needed to finance future programs.

### Donations to Friends of Science

Donations made directly to Friends of Science will provide us with funds for administrative expenses which are sorely needed in order to back up our volunteer work force.

**Friends of Science** at P.O. Box 23167,  
Connaught P.O.  
Calgary AB T2S 3B1

**E-mail** [contact@friendsofscience.org](mailto:contact@friendsofscience.org)

**Web** [www.friendsofscience.org](http://www.friendsofscience.org)