

FOS MEMBERSHIP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

No. 30

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

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

The Friends completed their 9th AGM on Tuesday June 07. It was well attended with some 30 people in the audience. The financial statement produced at the meeting showed 2010 to be a good year for donations for which we are very pleased. With the financial support of our members we undertook important initiatives during 2010 which included two successful Canada-wide radio blitzes for the purpose of countering the alarmists’ message. The meeting ended with scientific presentations by Neil Hutton and Albert Jacobs. Neil showed that present levels of CO₂ are near historical lows with respect to the geological time scale and Albert presented evidence to indicate that fluctuations in the sun’s orbit may soon result in another little ice age.

As many of you are aware The Friends are supporting The Frontier Centre for Public Policy (FCPP) who will be bringing Rex Murphy to Calgary to address the student body at The University of Calgary on Climate Change 101. The event will be held on Thursday September 29, 2011 at Mac Ewan Hall. Admission will be free and the public is encouraged to attend. We suspect that Rex will beard the lion in its den with some gusto.

We have contacted Professors Shawn Marshall and Tim Patterson concerning the possibility of holding a debate on climate change issues in late November or early December. Professor Shawn Marshall is the Canada Research Chair on Climate Change, Department of Geography, School of Earth Sciences, University of Calgary while Tim Patterson is Professor of Geology, Department of Earth Sciences, Carleton University. Both Shawn and Tim are known for their active positions on climate change issues. The format of the debate has yet to be finalized but will likely involve a presentation by each participant followed by an extensive question and answer period by the audience. It will occupy a period of about two hours.

A successful debate will have to be hosted by a neutral body. We had to this end been communicating with The Calgary Chamber of Commerce who originally expressed an interest in sponsoring the event. But they have subsequently decided against it because of prior commitments. We are therefore presently sending out feelers to The University of Calgary’s Faculty of Law and the Haskayne School of Business. We are also trying to get Mount Royal University interested.

It will be a source of embarrassment if we cannot find a sponsor for the debate which will be the first of its kind in Canada. It should therefore be of interest to both the business and scientific communities. (Any help our members can give us in this matter will be very much appreciated.).

It is encouraging to see the public becoming increasingly more sceptical of the gospel preached by the alarmists. This may be mostly attributable to the long cold winter and spring months which Canada experienced this year. Effects of the Climategate emails are still being felt. These showed alarmists corrupting data records, misplacing important information, suppressing publications contrary to their interests, and materially profiting from their advocacy of alarmist positions. It is

also encouraging that Russia, Japan and Canada have announced that they will not join a second round of carbon cuts under the Kyoto Protocol this year and the United States has reiterated that they will remain outside the Treaty. But our battle is far from being won.

These are exciting times with the repercussions of the alarmists' position with respect to job losses in the United States coming under greater scrutiny and people such as those in Ontario increasingly questioning costly subsidies for wind and solar power. The end of the tunnel is drawing nearer. But we will need your continuing moral and financial support to press home our recent advantages. These include the new web page which was widely advertised in our most recent radio campaign. It would be most helpful if members would tell their friends of this new site (www.climatechange101.ca)

Douglas Leahey PhD
President Friends of Science

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

UN Climate Talks and the Kyoto Protocol

So far this year there have been two rounds of UN-sponsored climate talks leading up to the year-end climate conference in Durban. At the April 3-8 session in Bangkok (with 173 nations attending) the lead US envoy, Todd Stern, said a legally-binding, international treaty (like the one attempted in Copenhagen in 2009) is "unworkable." Instead, voluntary, national regulations should be used to cut CO₂ emissions. Bangkok ended with agreement on a broad agenda for Durban, but failure to narrow the deep divisions between the developing world and industrialized nations. The former insist that only the latter should take binding action under international law.

The second round took place June 6-17 in Bonn, which began with announcements by Canada, Japan and Russia that they would opt out of any successor to the Kyoto Protocol. (The US never ratified Kyoto and will continue to remain outside the protocol.) While European countries have traditionally been the most vocal supporters of climate treaties, the current financial crises have prompted eight members of the EU to threaten to veto the Union's climate pact to cut emissions 20% by 2020. At Bonn the EU's chief negotiator said that the EU would sign on to a Kyoto extension only if it covered all the major economies. Even Christiana Figueres, the executive secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change admitted that there is not enough time to negotiate a successor to Kyoto and get it ratified by December 2012.

Therefore, unless the US and major developing economies (China, India) have a sudden change of heart, it appears that the Kyoto Protocol will quietly expire on December 31, 2012.

Ontario's Green Energy

While the climate was a non-issue in the recent federal election, Ontario's *Green Energy Act* with its lucrative feed-in tariffs for wind and solar power will feature in that province's election next October. Tim Hudak, leader of the opposition Progressive Conservatives has vowed to end the feed-in tariffs and treat energy as an economic policy, rather than a green one. This follows increasing outrage over escalating electricity rates and mounting opposition to the wind farms sprouting in rural areas.

City of Calgary and ENMAX

ENMAX is the City's wholly-owned utility that, among other things, generates and sells electricity. In 2007 the City and ENMAX entered into a 20-year contract for the supply of electricity to the City with the goal of moving towards 100% "green" energy use. The City's website [http://www.calgary.ca/docgallery/bu/environmental_management/climate_change_program/100_renewable_in_2012.pdf] states that it will be using 100% "green" electricity in 2012. Given that "green" energy (i.e., wind and/or solar) is more expensive than the conventional kind, and there is limited hydro generation in Alberta, it is obvious that Calgary taxpayers will be paying more for the City's electricity than necessary. The Friends of Science has written to the Mayor's Office asking how much the City will be paying (in ¢/kWh) for its electricity next year, but has received no reply. We will be submitting a more formal request under the *Freedom of Information and Privacy Act*.

SCIENCE NEWS

Out-going Longwave Radiation and the Greenhouse Effect

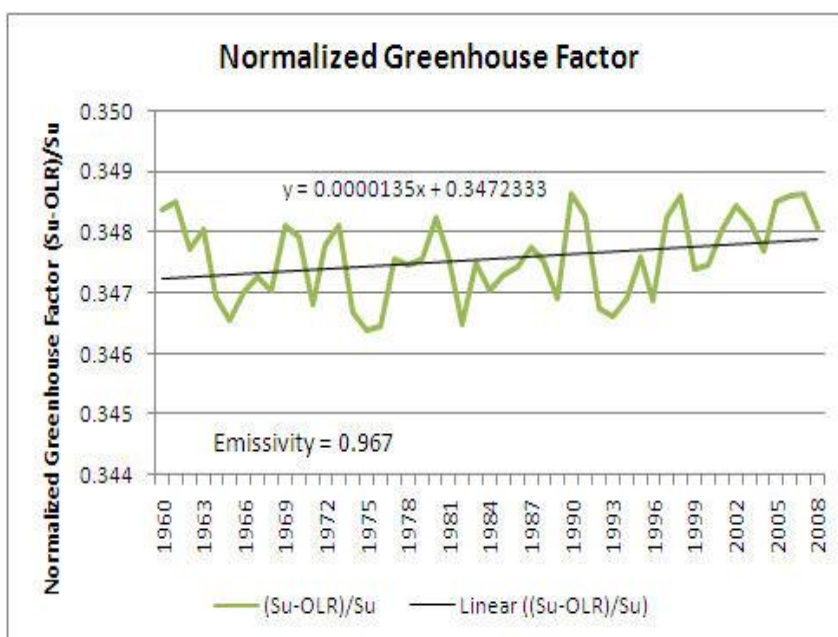
The Anthropogenic Global Warming (AGW) theory postulates that greenhouse gas emissions would cause a reduction of out-going long-wave radiation (OLR) from the top of the atmosphere for a given global average surface temperature.

The greenhouse effect results in the upward surface radiation (S_u) being greater than the OLR. The global surface temperatures are directly related to the surface radiation. As global warming may be caused by factors unrelated to greenhouse gases, the strength of the greenhouse effect is characterized by the fractional change in the radiative flux between the top and the bottom of the atmosphere, defined as the normalized greenhouse factor (NGF).

AGW alarmists are demanding major changes to energy policy due to their belief that man-made CO₂ emissions are dangerously increasing the greenhouse effect. The obvious question to the AGW alarmists is "Has the greenhouse effect increased with man-made greenhouse gas emissions?" An analysis using a radiation code computer program shows that there has been **no significant increase** in strength in the greenhouse effect since 1960. Data before 1960 is considered less reliable.

The best fit trend of the calculate OLR has increased by 2.4 W/m^2 (almost 1%) in 49 years. Man-made CO_2 emissions have not suppressed the out-going radiation to space.

The graph below shows the NGF. The best fit line shows that the NGF linear trend has increased by 0.19% over the 49 years. The temperature change from 1960 attributable to AGW is less than 0.1°C , which is insignificant.



The logarithmic extrapolation to double CO_2 concentrations gives a NGF of 0.66% above the 1960 best fit value. The extrapolation assumes that the long-run OLR will be in balance with incoming radiation. Converting the resulting surface radiative flux to temperature gives an estimate of climate sensitivity at double CO_2 concentration of 0.26°C . The data shows that the IPCC estimate of climate sensitivity of 3.0°C is unrealistic.

See the Friends of Science article by Ken Gregory [here](#) for further details.

This conclusion is also supported by a recent paper delivered by Norman Kalmanovitch at the recent GAC MAC convention in Ottawa. See a slide from the presentation showing increasing OLR [here](#).

New Experimental Evidence That Cosmic Rays Seed Clouds

Henrik Svensmark of the National Space Institute in Copenhagen had proposed a theory that cosmic rays, modulated by solar magnetic activity, seed low-level clouds that reflect some of the

Sun's radiation back into space. The theory was based on strong correlations between cosmic ray flux and low cloud cover.

Danish scientists reported in May 2011 that they have succeeded in directly observing that the electrically charged particles coming from space and hitting the atmosphere at high speed contribute to creating the aerosols that are the prerequisites for cloud formation. In a climate chamber at Aarhus University, scientists have created conditions similar to the atmosphere at the height where low clouds are formed. This artificial atmosphere was irradiated with fast electrons from ASTRID – Denmark's largest particle accelerator. The experiments show that increased radiation from cosmic rays leads to more aerosols. In the atmosphere, these aerosols grow into actual cloud nuclei in the course of hours or days. Water vapour concentrates on the nuclei forming small cloud droplets. The experiment more closely resembles the atmosphere and cosmic radiation where clouds are formed compared to previous experiments. See the news release [here](#).

Ken Gregory
Director, Friends of Science

DONATIONS

To accomplish our educational goals we need financial help from our members. I realize that these tough economic times are not conducive to many charitable donations, but in order to get life back onto a normal stream we need to raise important questions – **this debate matters, and it starts with you**. Please go to www.friendsofscience.org and make your contribution; on the upper right of the home page.

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 and for other planned activities including luncheons and the sponsorships of high profile speakers to address student bodies and other gatherings.

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