

# Climate Action News **this week**

Published by Climate Action Network – Réseau action climat Canada  
[www.climateactionnetwork.ca](http://www.climateactionnetwork.ca)

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June 11, 2008 Edition

## Top Story

### House passes Kyoto plus bill

The House of Commons passed the Climate Change Accountability Act last Wednesday. The bill, moved by NDP leader Jack Layton and supported by the Liberals and Bloc Québécois, commits the country to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent from 1990 levels by 2050. It sets an interim target of 25 per cent reductions by 2020 and requires progress reports from the government every five years.

Read the story:

[www.thestar.com/News/Canada/article/437244](http://www.thestar.com/News/Canada/article/437244)

House of Commons adopts Layton's Kyoto Plus bill:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=55uB6kyEIUM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=55uB6kyEIUM)

Le Projet de loi de Jack Layton:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Od4TzNvse8&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Od4TzNvse8&feature=related)

Climate Action Network Canada news release:

[www.climateactionnetwork.ca/e/news/2008/bill-c377-2008-06-05.html](http://www.climateactionnetwork.ca/e/news/2008/bill-c377-2008-06-05.html)

Communiqué du Réseau action climat Canada:

[www.reseauactionclimat.ca/f/nouvelles/2008/loi-c377-2008-06-05.html](http://www.reseauactionclimat.ca/f/nouvelles/2008/loi-c377-2008-06-05.html)

## National News

### Canadian Labour Congress passes climate change, green jobs and tar sands resolutions

The Canadian Labour Congress devoted two sessions to climate change at its recent convention in Toronto, and unanimously passed a resolution on climate change and green jobs. The resolution supports emissions reductions of 25-40% by 2020 and 50-85% by 2050, as recommended by the IPCC. The group also passed a resolution on the tar sands, proposing a moratorium on future tar sands projects.

CLC paper: Climate Change and Green Jobs: Labour's Challenges and Opportunities :  
<http://canadianlabour.ca/updir/climatechangeEn.pdf>

See Resolutions 11 and 12:

<http://canadianlabour.ca/updir/CountryCommitteeReportEn.pdf>

Watch the discussion:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=IdCbCvoEyjU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IdCbCvoEyjU)

## **Conservative attack ads on Liberals' carbon tax proposal foiled**

On Sunday, the federal Conservatives unveiled a series of ads attacking the Liberals' anticipated carbon tax proposal, portraying it as a tax grab. The ads were supposed to start airing Tuesday on video screens set up at gas pumps in Southern Ontario, but the company that was to place the ads has refused to do so. Simon Fraser University economist Mark Jaccard called the ads blatantly dishonest.

Firm refuses to run Tory attack ads:

[www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20080610.ADS10/TPStory/TPNational/Ontario/](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20080610.ADS10/TPStory/TPNational/Ontario/)

Watch the ad:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=YvYS5SFYEw4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YvYS5SFYEw4)

Tory attack on carbon tax is dishonest: economist:

[www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20080610/tory\\_ads\\_080610/20080610?hub=QPeriod](http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20080610/tory_ads_080610/20080610?hub=QPeriod)

## **Environment Canada puts \$92-million into car retirement program**

Environment Minister John Baird announced last week that Ottawa will hand over \$92-million over four years to the Toronto-based Clean Air Foundation to fund a program offering incentives to drivers to retire and recycle cars that are more than 17 years old. It is by far the largest grant spent by Environment Canada in the past year.

Feds unveil \$92M program to sweep old clunkers from the roads:

<http://canadianpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5jCrlw4-4q990b4NNEWHtQaNuZoEA>

The Clean Air Foundation's Car Heaven program:

[www.carheaven.ca/about/about\\_the\\_program.aspx](http://www.carheaven.ca/about/about_the_program.aspx)

Wired Magazine article:

<http://blog.wired.com/cars/2008/05/the-ultimate-pr.html>

Ottawa lance un programme pour retirer les tacots des routes:

<http://monvolant.cyberpresse.ca/200806/04/actualites/18636-ottawa-lance-un-programme-pour-retirer-les-tacots-des-routes.php>

## Montreal Climate Exchange is launched

The Montreal Climate Exchange (MCeX), a joint venture with the Chicago Climate Exchange and the Montreal Exchange, was launched May 30. It will trade futures contracts based on emission credits of greenhouse gases, joining a \$64-billion (U.S.) international carbon-credit market. It's the first market of this nature in Canada.

Read the story:

[www.canada.com/montrealgazette/news/business/story.html?id=8b776d55-a2b2-4679-85ce-5d43af3d6f33](http://www.canada.com/montrealgazette/news/business/story.html?id=8b776d55-a2b2-4679-85ce-5d43af3d6f33)

MCeX Press release:

[www.m-x.ca/f\\_comm\\_press\\_en/27-08\\_en.pdf](http://www.m-x.ca/f_comm_press_en/27-08_en.pdf)

Marché climatique de Montréal:

[www.radio-canada.ca/nouvelles/Economie-Affaires/2005/12/07/003-Bourse-Climat.shtml](http://www.radio-canada.ca/nouvelles/Economie-Affaires/2005/12/07/003-Bourse-Climat.shtml)

## Provincial News

### Ontario and Quebec to establish interprovincial cap-and-trade system

Ontario and Quebec signed an agreement last Monday to establish a market-based emissions credit trading system, which could be operating as early as 2010. Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty called the initiative the first step toward a national cap-and-trade system, which he predicts the United States will soon introduce, putting pressure on Harper to abandon his intensity-based plan for greenhouse gas reductions. Monday's meeting between Ontario and Quebec, which represent Canada's two largest economies and together are home to almost two thirds of all Canadians, also produced an agreement to work on clean energy initiatives and on increasing energy efficiency and conservation.

Interprovincial cap-and-trade plan could be working by 2010:

[www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20080603.wcarbon03/BNStory/National/homeCanada](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20080603.wcarbon03/BNStory/National/homeCanada)

McGuinty, Charest team up on feds:

[www.thestar.com/News/Canada/article/435881](http://www.thestar.com/News/Canada/article/435881)

Media release from the office of Premier McGuinty:

[www.premier.gov.on.ca/news/Product.asp?ProductID=2277](http://www.premier.gov.on.ca/news/Product.asp?ProductID=2277)

Entente Québec-Ontario sur la lutte contre les GES: Ottawa élaboussé :

[www.cyberpresse.ca/article/20080603/CPACTUALITES/806030759/6638/CPENVIRONNEMENT](http://www.cyberpresse.ca/article/20080603/CPACTUALITES/806030759/6638/CPENVIRONNEMENT)

L'union fait la force :

[www.radio-canada.ca/regions/atlantique/2008/06/07/001-accord-environnement\\_n.shtml](http://www.radio-canada.ca/regions/atlantique/2008/06/07/001-accord-environnement_n.shtml)

## US News

### Top U.S. scientists and economists call for swift, deep cuts in greenhouse gases

A joint statement was released May 29 by 1,700 scientists and economists – including six Nobel Prize winners, 31 National Academy of Science members, and more than 100 IPCC authors and editors – calling on policymakers to legislate a reduction in US emissions to 80 percent below 2000 levels by 2050. This marks the first time leading US scientists and economists have joined to make an appeal to policymakers. The statement, released by the Union of Concerned Scientists, preceded a debate in the Senate last week on the proposed Climate Security Act, which calls for a cap-and-trade system.

Scientists, economists push for US pollution cuts:

[http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5i6\\_bAyyz1zL6-gOyRvhhSwTobNBg](http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5i6_bAyyz1zL6-gOyRvhhSwTobNBg)

UCS press release:

[www.ucsusa.org/news/press\\_release/top-us-scientists-and-0120.html](http://www.ucsusa.org/news/press_release/top-us-scientists-and-0120.html)

For the full statement and the list of signatories, go to:

[www.ucsusa.org/assets/documents/global\\_warming/Scientist\\_Economists\\_Call\\_to\\_Action\\_fnl.pdf](http://www.ucsusa.org/assets/documents/global_warming/Scientist_Economists_Call_to_Action_fnl.pdf)

### Climate Security Act dies on Senate floor

Senate last week failed to pass the proposed Climate Security Act (also known as the Lieberman-Warner bill), which would require a 70-percent cut over the next four decades in greenhouse gas emissions from power plants, refineries, factories and transportation. After being delayed by Republican filibustering, the bill lost on a procedural vote, ruling out the possibility that it will pass this session.

Read the story:

[www.upi.com/Energy\\_Resources/2008/06/06/Climate\\_change\\_bill\\_dies\\_on\\_Senate\\_floor/UPI-11421212801065/](http://www.upi.com/Energy_Resources/2008/06/06/Climate_change_bill_dies_on_Senate_floor/UPI-11421212801065/)

The heat goes on:

[www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/editorial/5828142.html](http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/editorial/5828142.html)

Why the Climate Bill Failed:

[www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1812836,00.html](http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1812836,00.html)

YouTube videos of debate:

[www.youtube.com/profile\\_videos?user=EnergyEnvironmentTV](http://www.youtube.com/profile_videos?user=EnergyEnvironmentTV)

Les républicains torpillent le 1er grand projet de loi sur le climat:

[www.cyberpresse.ca/article/20080606/CPENVIRONNEMENT/80606069/6638/CPENVIRONNEMENT](http://www.cyberpresse.ca/article/20080606/CPENVIRONNEMENT/80606069/6638/CPENVIRONNEMENT)

# World News

## Canada named Fossil of the Week

Canada was named Fossil of the Week this Monday by Climate Action Network International at U.N.-led climate negotiations running from June 2 to 13 in Bonn, Germany. Negotiators from more than 172 countries are meeting for the talks.

See the write-up from CAN:

[www.climateactionnetwork.ca/e/news/2008/bonn-fow-2008-06-10.html](http://www.climateactionnetwork.ca/e/news/2008/bonn-fow-2008-06-10.html)

## G8 to fight oil prices with efficiency, tech

The Group of Eight member nations along with China, India and South Korea say they will speed up investment in new technologies to help increase energy efficiency, while urging oil producers to increase production. Energy ministers from the G8 and the three Asian countries made the joint declaration on concluding their meeting in Aomori, Japan. They also announced the establishment of the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation, a framework aimed at facilitating energy-saving measures and technology transfer.

Read the story:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5ilq0Ckni0NsfEwCabIEAk6NfGLqgD915TDIO2>

G8 plus three agree to promote energy efficiency for stable market, climate:

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2008-06/08/content\\_8327912.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2008-06/08/content_8327912.htm)

Details on the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation:

<http://euroalert.net/en/news.aspx?idn=7320>

Le G8 s'inquiète de la montée des prix du pétrole :

[www.cyberpresse.ca/article/20080608/CPMONDE/80608020/6488/CPACTUALITES](http://www.cyberpresse.ca/article/20080608/CPMONDE/80608020/6488/CPACTUALITES)

Le G8 Environnement :

[www.cyberpresse.ca/article/20080603/CPACTUALITES/806030398/5164/CPDROIT](http://www.cyberpresse.ca/article/20080603/CPACTUALITES/806030398/5164/CPDROIT)

## Scientists warn G8 of climate peril to food

In a joint statement signed by the heads of the national academies of science of the G8 countries and of Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa, scientists called on G8 leaders June 10 to halve GHG emissions by 2050 through improved energy efficiency, renewable energy expansion, and carbon capture and storage, warning that climate change threatens global food and water supplies. It is the fourth appeal on climate change issued by the 13 academies ahead of the annual summit of the G8, which this year will run from July 7-9 in Toyako, Japan.

Read the article:

[http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5jsH3Yi5WJJvfUsFPjSmgvxT8\\_faw](http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5jsH3Yi5WJJvfUsFPjSmgvxT8_faw)

## **Biofuels exacerbating climate change, says Oxfam**

Not only is biofuel production boosting food prices, it is also accelerating climate change, said Oxfam in a statement released before the United Nations Food Summit in Rome last week. Oxfam said governments should dismantle subsidies and tax exemptions for biofuels, and pointed to "mounting evidence that biofuel mandates are actually accelerating climate change by driving the expansion of agriculture into critical habitats such as forests and wetlands."

UN Food security summit opens in Rome:

[www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/afp\\_world/view/351617/1/.html](http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/afp_world/view/351617/1/.html)

Egyptian leader attacks biofuels:

[www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20080603.wromefood0603/BNStory/International](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20080603.wromefood0603/BNStory/International)

Article on February 2008 study of greenhouse gas impacts of biofuel production:

[www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/main.jhtml?xml=/earth/2008/02/07/eabiofuel107.xml](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/main.jhtml?xml=/earth/2008/02/07/eabiofuel107.xml)

Les biocarburants au centre de débats au sommet de la FAO:

[www.cyberpresse.ca/article/20080604/CPMONDE/80604118](http://www.cyberpresse.ca/article/20080604/CPMONDE/80604118)

Ban Ki-moon: la production alimentaire mondiale doit augmenter:

[www.cyberpresse.ca/article/20080603/CPMONDE/80603019/1014/CPMONDE](http://www.cyberpresse.ca/article/20080603/CPMONDE/80603019/1014/CPMONDE)

## **And now for something completely different High gas prices have Americans screaming for HELP!**

[http://weblogs.newsday.com/news/opinion/walthandelsman/blog/2008/05/animation\\_high\\_gas\\_prices.html](http://weblogs.newsday.com/news/opinion/walthandelsman/blog/2008/05/animation_high_gas_prices.html)

## **Get Involved**

**CANADIANS DESERVE KYOTOPLUS! Learn about this national mobilization campaign for climate action and sign the "Petition for Concerned Canadians" at [www.kyotoplus.ca/en/petition.html](http://www.kyotoplus.ca/en/petition.html)**

**STOP NEW OIL SANDS PROJECTS! Sign the petition at [www.nonewapprovals.ca/](http://www.nonewapprovals.ca/)**

**Would you like to see a \$120 billion/year U.N. Green Global Fund to save species from extinction due to global warming? Sign the Care2 petition: [www.thepetitionsite.com/1/to-un-secretary-general-for-creating-the-120-byr-global-green-fund-for-combating-global-warming-and](http://www.thepetitionsite.com/1/to-un-secretary-general-for-creating-the-120-byr-global-green-fund-for-combating-global-warming-and)**

**Green Cars** – Do you want cars that are truly fuel-efficient? Tell it to the federal government today at [www.cleancarscanada.ca](http://www.cleancarscanada.ca).

## Looking Ahead

June 2-13	2nd session of Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention & SBSTA & SBI, Bonn, Germany
June 9-12	Montreal Conference (Int'l Economic Forum of the Americas) <a href="http://www.conferencedemontreal.com/">www.conferencedemontreal.com/</a>
June 17	World Day to Combat Desertification
June 24-26	7 <sup>th</sup> World Wind Energy Conference & Exhibition, Kingston, Ontario <a href="http://www.wwindea.org/home/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=194&amp;Itemid=68">www.wwindea.org/home/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=194&amp;Itemid=68</a>
June 26-27	G8 Science and Technology Ministers Meeting, Okinawa, Japan
July 4-6	"Let's Invite the Elephant into the Room", National Youth Climate Summit, Edmonton, Alberta, <a href="http://ourclimate.ca">http://ourclimate.ca</a>
July 7-9	G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit <a href="http://www.g8summit.go.jp/eng/index.html">www.g8summit.go.jp/eng/index.html</a>

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