

CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION FOR THE MONTH of December, 2007

SEASON'S GREETINGS, PRIME MINISTER HARPER AND PREMIER CAMPBELL:

Please mail a Christmas/Holiday greeting card to the Prime Minister and Premier today! Make it personal so it will stand out: hand-write a brief, heartfelt message and include a photo of your children or grandchildren or your favorite species or places in nature.

WHAT TO WRITE AND WHAT TO ASK FOR:

Ask Prime Minister Stephen Harper, in the name of our children and grandchildren, and in the name of life on Earth, to stand up strongly NOW as a national leader of one of the world's top energy-producing and energy-consuming nations, and make a commitment to carbon taxes and international, binding and radical reductions in greenhouse gases. Tell him the time to do this is now, on the world stage at the UN global climate change conference that is happening right now in Bali. Tell the Prime Minister you want your children and grandchildren to be proud not embarrassed to be Canadians, and you want Canada to be a world leader not a world follower when it comes to doing the right thing for life on this planet. Tell him you want your children and grandchildren to have a high-quality life and not be threatened by the ecosystem and economic collapses that are becoming more certain if we do not act NOW. Tell him to put our families and our planet first and to consider economics second. Tell him we Canadians, and the world's citizens, have the ingenuity, willpower and capacity to quickly and radically change our habits of consumption, and that if we could confront a challenge as great and pressing as the rise of the Axis powers in the 1930s and 1940s, we can certainly rise to this challenge. Tell him we are running out of time.

Ask Premier Gordon Campbell to make even more serious commitments to reduce the effects of climate change than he already has. Thank him for his courageous leadership and his commitment to reduce BC carbon emissions by 33% by 2020 and by 80% by 2050. But tell him that is really not enough. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change may not fully be accounting for the missing carbon cycle feedbacks that are likely to intensify. We must do more, now! Ask him to move rapidly to institute a serious carbon tax in BC and to implement sweeping measures for energy

conservation, alternative energy development and aggressive, regulated carbon reductions for industry and transportation. Include some of the same points as in the message above about your children, grandchildren and the fate of the Earth.

A personal note to Prime Minister Harper and Premier Campbell are attached on the next page. Please use them to help guide you in your own brief, personal message, but don't quote them verbatim. It is important that your message looks and feels personal.

**Prime Minister Stephen Harper - Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2**

Dear Prime Minister:

I think of you tonight as I hand-write Christmas letters to my loved ones by candlelight. A wet, heavy snow has fallen here on the BC coast, bending trees onto power lines and causing massive power outages. One benefit of these winter coastal experiences is that we are forced to slow down. In that pause from the busyness that electricity normally affords us, I find the time and space to ponder matters that normally fall by the wayside.

Tonight, I am thinking about you, and I am thinking about my grandchildren. Julia is seven and Ariana is four. As you can see from the enclosed photograph, they are absolutely beautiful and full of promise. Do you know that their future is in your hands? As the leader of one of the world's top energy producing and consuming nations, you have immense responsibility and influence in this time of global climate change. The decisions that our world's national leaders make at this juncture could determine the fate of our children and grandchildren, as well as billions of other humans and living species on the planet.

Yes, I know that each of us has personal responsibility to make changes in our energy consumption, but I also know that the weight of the responsibility (and of the possibility for success) rests in the hands of national policymakers. I won't recount facts and figures in this letter, as I want to appeal to your heart tonight—to you as a human being, a father, a future grandfather, and a trusted national leader.

For the love of the children, for the love of so many of the planet's species that could be lost if we don't quickly make substantial changes in our use and development of energy sources, I implore you to have the heart and courage to stand up for what is morally right. Please commit now to carbon taxes and international, binding and radical reductions in greenhouse gases. Please come forward now and make us all proud to be Canadians. Please have the courage to lead, not lag behind the world, in meeting this unprecedented climate challenge. Canada has a great opportunity to come forward on the world stage right now at the ongoing United Nations climate change conference in Bali.

I hope that you and your family have very happy holidays.

Premier Gordon Campbell

P.O. Box 9041 Stn. Prov. Govt. - Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

Dear Premier Campbell:

You come to mind tonight as I hand-write Christmas letters to dear ones by candlelight. The wet, heavy snow has once again caused massive power outages. One benefit of these experiences is that we are simply forced to slow down. In that pause from the busyness that electricity normally affords us, I find the time and space to ponder matters that normally fall by the wayside.

Tonight, I am thinking about you, and I am thinking about my grandchildren. Julia is seven and Ariana is four. As you can see from this photograph, they are absolutely beautiful and full of promise. Do you know that their future is in your hands? Our leaders of today have the awesome responsibility of acting quickly and decisively regarding our use and development of energy and what it portends for the future.

I greatly appreciate the courageous leadership you have already demonstrated. Thank you so much for your recent commitment to reduce BC carbon emissions by 33% by 2020 and by 80% by 2050. But I now understand that this commitment is really not enough. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change may not yet be accounting for missing carbon cycle feedbacks that will likely intensify the crisis. We must do more, and we cannot delay. Please, rapidly institute a serious carbon tax in BC and implement sweeping measures for energy conservation, alternative energy development, and aggressive carbon reductions for industry and transportation. Please act now for our children, grandchildren and all of life.

I hope that you and your family have very happy holidays.