



CALL newsletter
Edition 64
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Editors:

Anne Heber, Karen Sadlier-Brown,
Jane Cousens, Priscilla Platt

email: contact.us@climatelearners.ca

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This issue: Climate conversations that matter!

In this newsletter, we're amplifying the theme from Katharine Hayhoe's September 9th webinar titled: **Climate Conversations Matter – Let's Get Talking!** which you can register for below.

Climate related issues have hit the headlines this summer like never before: extreme weather, wildfires across Canada and Europe, and security issues and escalating costs of fossil fuels, have converged to raise awareness of the accelerating impact of climate change on our daily lives. [Canadian opinion polls](#) in July (by Abacus and Angus Reid) show these headlines have led to a noticeable increase in Canadians' awareness of and concern about climate. Legacy media may not always attribute these escalating problems to climate change, but when we can see and feel the immediate impacts of climate in such meaningful ways, it opens the door to opportunities for discussion.

This issue includes messages from the following insightful climate leaders:

- **Katharine Hayhoe**, Canadian atmospheric scientist, has been invited by Seniors for Climate in partnership with CALL to join us for a Zoom talk on September 9th.
- **Chris Hatch**, a Canadian reporter who writes for Canada's National Observer, emphasizes that a whopping 80% of Canadians are concerned about climate, even if it isn't a top priority.
- **Bill McKibben**, American author and writer, in conversation with the podcast by New York Times reporter Ezra Klein, describes the need for conversations to counter the "climate hushing" defined as the practice of deliberately avoiding or minimizing public discussion about climate change that we have seen over the past two years. The resulting silence has led to missed opportunities to promote the availability of climate solutions.

- Like Katharine Hayhoe, **Caroline Lucas**, past leader of the United Kingdom's Green Party, believes in the power of meaningful conversation. She has spent this summer travelling across the UK holding grassroots conversations about the impacts of climate that touch peoples' lives. Popular UK podcasters on "The Rest is Politics" have launched the mini-series she is screening at these events. [READ](#)

Don't miss this webinar with rock star climate scientist Katharine Hayhoe. It kicks off October's Fall's Climate Week of Action!



**Breaking through the climate silence
Webinar with leading climate scientist and author
Dr. Katharine Hayhoe
on Sept. 9th at 6:30 pm ET**

Climate Conversations Matter – Let's Get Talking!
The climate crisis is accelerating across Canada. Extreme heat. Wildfires and toxic smoke. Flooding. Rising food and insurance costs. Growing worries about our children and grandchildren. After years of climate action fading into the background, the climate crisis has once again become impossible to ignore. We must seize this moment to get people talking.

Register here for the September 9th webinar:
SeniorsForClimate.org

Seniors for Climate Week of Action from October 12-16. Later is too late: Break through the climate silence.

The focus of these Seniors for Climate events will be on meeting with Members of Parliament and Municipal Leaders across the country to breakthrough the climate silence. CALL is one of the founding members of Seniors for Climate, and we are excited to be part of this nation-wide campaign that aims to rekindle the conversation around climate.

Register here for the Fall 2026 Climate Week of Action: SeniorsForClimate.org

Climate silence at the highest levels of government is preventing the climate action that is urgently needed. Breaking through the climate silence is how we reopen the space for action, where truth can be spoken, solutions can be seen, and leadership can re-surface. It's how to move from quiet concern to collective responsibility. And seniors are uniquely positioned to break through the climate silence, for the things that we love.

Upcoming Interest Group meetings



Join the Advocacy Interest Group
Date & time: Wednesday, September 16
at 10:00 am ET on Zoom

We will discuss how to communicate effectively and review some of the latest thinking from communication experts such as Potential Energy.

[CLICK HERE](#) to join the meeting on the 16th. Advance registration is not required.

Note: There is no Individual Action Group meeting in September.

New course starts on October 13 with Dr. Martin Bush. Register now!

Earth's Changing Climate – Confronting the Challenge

Ready to learn something
empowering together?

The on-line course will review and analyze the global impacts of the worsening climate crisis.

A total of eight 50-minute live presentations will be given on Zoom, each followed by a question-and-answer session. Recordings will be available until two weeks after the last class.

Subjects covered

- Global Overview
- Why is Climate Changing?
- Global Energy Transition
- Electrification
- Disinformation & Denial
- Climate in Canada
- The Nuclear Question
- Taking Action



Image by dsmowndick from Pixabay

Presented by
Dr. Martin Bush

Classes
starting
Tuesday,
October 13
for eight weeks
ending December 1
1:00–2:30 PM ET
\$25.00



This on-line course will review and analyze the global impacts of the worsening climate crisis.

A total of eight, 50-minute live presentations will be given on Zoom, each followed by a question-and-answer session. Recordings will be available until two weeks after the last class.

Presented by Dr. Martin Bush, Climate Reality Project Leader and climate change author.

Dates: Classes start on Tuesday, October 13 for eight weeks and end on December 1.

Time: 1:00 - 2:30 pm ET

Cost: \$25.00 for all 8 classes.

We do not want any barriers to learning. If the \$25.00 course fee is a barrier, you can register with whatever you can manage.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

or email climate.course@climatelearners.ca

Contact Us

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or QR Code to get registration link



AI data centres: Take action to protect the climate and environment

Ontario already has many data centres which store and process data for governments, hospitals and businesses. The demand for AI data centres, however, is growing rapidly as major technology companies seek hyperscale facilities with capacities many times larger than previous centres. Canada has five hyperscale centres, with another 96 at various stages of development as of June 2026.

As Canadians learn more about the potential impacts, secrecy surrounding some data-centre arrangements has further fuelled criticism and calls for a moratorium. Municipalities are also pushing back and calling for moratoriums —not necessarily because they oppose data-centre development, but because many want to establish what responsible development looks like before making long-term planning decisions.

On August 13, the Ontario government released its [Data Centre Playbook](#) and opened a consultation through the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#). **The deadline for comment on the Registry is September 12, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.**

Respond to the call for comments by the Ontario government. And send a message to your elected officials that we need to get this right. Here are points you may wish to consider.

As an over-riding principle, Ontario should ensure that AI data centres pay their full costs and meet strong climate and environmental standards. They should not receive a free pass on electricity, water or infrastructure. Environmental standards should be measurable, enforceable and strong enough to ensure that AI expansion does not increase fossil-fuel generation, electricity costs, water stress or environmental degradation.

Canada's new AI strategy already says that new data centre development should be linked to clean-energy expansion, robust environmental standards and tangible benefits for communities. Here are key principles that need to be turned into specific, enforceable and robust standards.

1. Require new AI data centres to demonstrate that their incremental electricity demand will be met by new clean generation—not increased fossil-fuel generation.
2. Require data centres to pay the full incremental cost of the generation, transmission and distribution infrastructure needed to serve them.
3. Establish mandatory energy, carbon and water-efficiency standards, with public reporting of performance.
4. Require large data centres to provide demand-response and/or storage capability so they do not exacerbate peak electricity demand.
5. Require rigorous water-use and environmental assessments before approval, particularly in areas where local water resources are constrained.
6. Support municipalities by putting in place a moratorium to establish what responsible development looks like.

See the podcast section below for more on the issues with AI data centres and what we can do to protect the climate and environment.

Podcasts on climate conversations that matter



The very good and very bad news on climate (July 10/26).

Ezra talks to Bill McKibben on his vision for a new kind of climate politics – one that doesn't just talk about sacrifice and disaster prevention but also can present decarbonization as a path to somewhere better, where everyone has more, not less.

[LISTEN](#)



When climate change threatens national security (August 13/26).

On this podcast, Akshat Rathi speaks with Caroline Lucas, the former head of the UK's Green Party and a member of parliament for 14 years. They discuss the increasing threat climate change poses to national security, and what she's learned from four decades at the frontline of climate politics.

[LISTEN](#)



The Rest Is Politics is Britain's biggest podcast. Caroline Lucas hosts this podcast on when nature becomes a security threat.

This episode discusses a government report written by senior intelligence officials who write that climate and nature collapse is a national security threat. Could ecosystem collapse lead to empty supermarket shelves, water scarcity and increased risk of conflict? And, ultimately, why has this not become a bigger conversation among politicians?

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Podcasts on getting AI data centres right



CBC What on Earth: Will Alberta data centres really curb their water use?

There was booing and calls of bullsh*t during a recent government town hall in Sturgeon County. It's where tech giant Meta is building its largest data centre outside of the U.S. Locals have a variety of concerns; we're zooming in on the promise that this facility will use less water. Can the plans for 'closed loop' cooling help fix AI's thirstiness? We break down what the tech can do, and what's really happening at data centres already operating.

[LISTEN](#)



CBC's Front Burner: Canada's data centre boom, and backlash.

Why Canadians across the country are pushing back against AI data centres in their communities.

[LISTEN](#)



The New Yorker Radio Hour: Bernie Sanders and Erin Brockovich take on data centres.

The Vermont senator Bernie Sanders is taking this fight to the national level. He and Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez have introduced legislation that calls for a nationwide moratorium on data centers to allow time for more research and public input on the issue. The furor, Sanders tells David Remnick, cuts across political divisions. The opponents “are conservatives, they are progressives, they are moderates,” he adds. “Why am I aiding these large corporations owned by the wealthiest people in the world who [couldn’t] care less about me? Let’s stand up.”

[LISTEN](#)

Climate reports and news

The Energy Mix Weekender	The end of the world vs. the end of the week: Carney’s pushback on Trump’s bullying could point to the next energy transition moment. There are no guarantees. (There never are.) But PM Mark Carney’s latest move to protect Canadian sovereignty could open a path to the real nation-building projects we need and want. READ
Canada’s National Observer	Concern is up, priority is down. Welcome to the climate paradox. Chris Hatch reports on Canadians’ opinion on the climate and says the ‘disconnect is striking with very few of us ranking climate as a high priority but a whopping 80 percent of Canadians saying they are concerned.’ READ
We Don’t Have Time	The fossil lobby is winning: 45 climate policy reversals in one year. Between July 2025 and July 2026, 45 policy reversals were made across 15 jurisdictions and the global shipping regime. Six landed within five weeks this summer, during and right after the heat waves. READ
Clean Energy Canada	A critical moment. The EU is looking to diversify its critical mineral supply chain as it builds a cleaner economy. Canada has what it needs. Clean Energy Canada recommends we focus on six: cobalt, copper, graphite, lithium, nickel and rare earth minerals. These are the backbone of the energy transition and Canada has opportunities in all of them. Now is the moment for a stronger partnership. READ
Science (from the Katharine Hayhoe newsletter)	Unexpected expansion and regrowth in Earth’s mangrove forests over the past four decades. Forty years of satellite data from NASA’s Landsat program shows that the gains are driven by mangroves both expanding into new habitats and regenerating in places where they once grew. After decades of decline, the recovery has accelerated so sharply that earlier losses have nearly been erased. READ

World Wildlife Canada	Growing hope: Q&A with Liz Hendriks, WWF's head of restoration. Habitat loss and fragmentation are among the biggest drivers of wildlife decline in Canada, but protecting what remains is only part of the solution. Liz Hendriks explains why bringing it back involves so much more than planting trees and how relationships must be at the core of any approach. READ
Carbon Brief	How nuclear, gas, wind, and solar power are affected during heat waves. Heatwaves are becoming more likely and more intense due to climate change, impacting sources of power generation around the world as they work to meet increased demand. Carbon Brief, amid a slew of misleading claims, explains how power sources cope with extreme heat. READ

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CALL's bi-annual donation drive is on now.

Thanks to those who have already donated but we have a way to go to reach our 2026 goal of \$6,250. Any amount you can give is helpful. [Click here](#) to donate to the CALL Small Change Fund.

CALL's leadership team

contact.us@climatelearners.ca

Michael Barkley JoAnne Hunter	Peggi Liswood Priscilla Platt	Judy Sheridan Michael Treuman	Sharon Zeiler
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