

## A Message for Trudeau on his visit to Victoria on July 18, 2019

Posted by Joan Russow

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Remember in 1988 in the Climate Change Conference in Toronto, the participants concluded: Humanity is conducting an unintended, uncontrolled, globally pervasive experiment whose ultimate consequence could be second only to a global nuclear war. the Earth's atmosphere is changed at an unprecedented rate by pollutants resulting from depositions of hazardous, toxic and atomic wastes and from wasteful fossil fuel use ... These changes represent a major threat to international security and are already having harmful consequences over many parts of the globe.... it is imperative to act now. Climate Change in the Conference statement, Changing Atmosphere Conference in 1988.

**Remember, in 2013, Canada agreed to Sustainable Development Goal 13- "Climate change presents the single biggest threat to development, and its widespread, unprecedented impacts disproportionately burden the poorest and most vulnerable. Urgent action to combat climate change is needed"**

**Remember in 2015. at COP 21, Ban Ki Moon, in Paris, urged states to negotiate with a global vision Implementing SDG13 and achieving A global vision for Canada would be:**

**(i) Fulfilling article 2, of UNFCCC: The ultimate objective of this Convention and any related legal instruments that the Conference of the Parties may adopt is to achieve, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system**

**(ii) Being determined to protect the rights of future generations, and to invoking the precautionary principle, (Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage from climate change, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing such measures to prevent the threat)**

**(iii) Supporting the principle of common and differentiated responsibility, compensating for historical emissions, and instituting a fair and just transition for workers and communities affected negatively by the new vision**

**(iv) Ending subsidies for fossil fuel, and the investment in fossil fuels through the Canada pension fund**

**(v) Closing down the tar sands, not rationalizing the continuation of the tar sands to fund renewable energy**

**(vi) Conserving carbon sinks -such as old growth forests and bogs, strengthening conservation of biodiversity,**

**(vii) Compensating for historical emissions, and instituting a fair and just transition for workers and communities affected negatively by the new vision**

**(viii) Promoting nature-based solutions and socially equitable and environmentally sound transit and energy such as solar, wind, tidal, and geothermal, and avoiding all false solutions such as nuclear, geo-engineering, fracking and biofuels. Respecting the emerging science.**

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**(ix) Reducing the military budget by 50% and transfer savings to address the climate change emergency.**

**(x) Seeking an opinion from the International Court of Justice about Canada's potential violation of Article 2 of the UN Framework Convention on Climate change**

**Joan Russow**

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**Victoria**