

13:39:15 From Paul Beckwith to Everyone:

Q: Please comment about the Climate War Room that the Alberta Govt. Set up to trash anybody against the tar sands/oil sands. A total farce.

13:40:42 From Samrat B to Everyone:

C: 67% voted is a great turnout. In Spain, it's 53%; India, 44%; much lower in poorer countries in Africa and Asia.

13:44:38 From Paul Beckwith to Everyone:

Q: The huge Ft. McMurray wildfire was in 2016. With 2023 wildfires sweeping Canada, will Alberta ever recognize climate change consequences? I think NO.

13:48:38 From Samrat B to Everyone:

C: In 1492, Columbus landed in the New World. In 1541, the Mapuche of Chile fell to the conquistadores. In that aspect, Alberta had it going good till 1754, yet eventually the natives driven out, converted, or plain wiped out. How many Natives are left in Alberta? Are they rich?

[Data from Statistics Canada for 2021/22

Indigenous people in Alberta: 258,640 (6.5% of total population).

Average income of indigenous people in Alberta: \$44,920 (vs ~\$61,100 for all Canadians).

Ed.]

13:55:35 From Claude Buettner to Everyone:

Q: A lot of these developments you describe make me hear a dog whistle. Are US Trumpers involved behind the scenes or are influencers?

14:06:29 From William Rees to Everyone:

C: The world is becoming increasingly complex. Is it even theoretically possible for leadership to 'match' (i.e., successfully manage) that complexity? (PS: humans still have Paleolithic lithic brains and minds.)

14:11:00 From Paul Beckwith to Everyone:

Q: Should Canada ditch Alberta?

14:12:50 From Raymond Leury to Everyone:

Q: It is clear to me that Alberta's reliance on fossil fuels will bring it trouble in a decarbonized future. Do you see a path to getting Albertans to realize that global conditions will cause it to have to change its industrial base? I'm seeing signs that people in the "hydrogen" proponent camp are starting to see the writing on the wall. Maybe the same could happen to the fossil fuel proponents?

14:20:47 From Peter Bulkowski to Everyone:

Q: Do you support a triple E senate? Do you support revamping "equalization" such that Alberta & Saskatchewan cease to be large net contributors? Do you support Alberta & Saskatchewan deciding on yes or no &/or amounts of carbon taxes in their jurisdictions? Do you believe in Canada as a federal state, where the province governments & the federal government have different areas of jurisdiction?

14:29:57 From Jeff Passmore to Everyone:

Q: What reaction to this message do you get when you deliver it in Alberta?

14:31:57 From Samrat B to Everyone:

C: Great question.

14:33:06 From Jean and Dave Dougherty CACOR to Everyone:

C: How odd that Albertans would not understand that people in every province have suffered their own problems, many the same problems (e.g., housing prices becoming outrageous). That's just the way our capitalist society work now, concentrating money in the hands of fewer and fewer people.

14:42:21 From Jean and Dave Dougherty CACOR to Everyone:

Q: Were Alberta to separate, would the federal lands (e.g., national parks and forces bases) remain part of Canada?

14:50:21 From Raymond Leury to Everyone:

C: Hillary Clinton was a featured speaker at the last Liberal national convention a few weeks back.

14:57:22 From Anitra Thorhaug to Everyone:

Q: The original concept of the Club of Rome was to be the eminence gris to whisper in the ears of the world's leadership. What kind of whispers can you do to the leadership either federal or Albertan to move to a far more rational place?

15:08:35 From William Rees to Everyone:

C: In 2022, modern alternative energy sources (wind and solar) provided about 7% of global primary energy and less than 3% of final energy. Fossil fuels (FF) provided >80% of primary energy and even 60% of electric energy globally. Rapidly dropping FF would condemn hundreds of millions of people to great misery or death. FF is not going away any time soon in a growth economy particularly if the demand for energy continues to grow almost as fast as green renewables (which are neither green nor renewable) come on stream.

[As I reviewed that comment, this occurred to me: Continuing to drive climate change and biodiversity loss will condemn billions to great misery and premature death. Interestingly, see the next comment. Ed.]

15:10:22 From Raymond Leury to Everyone:

C: @William, continuing to burn fossil fuels will condemn billions to great misery and death.

15:11:38 From William Rees to Everyone:

C: Agriculture is the single greatest source of ecological damage on the planet, particularly since the modern form is driven and sustained by fossil fuels.

15:12:55 From Raymond Leury to Everyone:

C: @Bill, yes, however much of the fertilizer we use is made using gray hydrogen (produced from methane). That can be replaced by green hydrogen.

15:15:30 From William Rees to Everyone:

C: True, Raymond. I am not advocating for fossil fuels, just explaining why the world is not abandoning fossil fuels. We are social, spatial, and temporal discounters--we'd rather impose great harm on future generations (mostly elsewhere, so we are told) than impose certain 'damage' on the present generation of our own people now.

15:17:08 From Raymond Leury to Everyone:

C: @Bill, without totally abandoning fossil fuels, a drop in demand will cause an outsized drop in the price of oil and that will make Alberta's oil, particularly the tar sands, uneconomical. I think that will happen in 10 years at most.

15:18:09 From Raymond Leury to Everyone:

C: So in 10 years, Alberta might be a have not province...

15:22:57 From Ted Manning to Everyone:

C: Alberta is very fortunate in having a wide range of resources (sun, wind, water, good soil, etc.). It should do well in many sectors if it looks widely.

15:27:39 From Jean and Dave Dougherty CACOR to Everyone:

C: Bill, you are absolutely correct on discounting. We need to have a discount rate that recognizes how we feel about children--they are priceless and even more important than we are. DR ought to be negative for evaluation of public policies and programs.