

Annual Report 2012-2013

# NEW HORIZONS



CANADIAN CLIMATE FORUM  
LE FORUM CANADIEN DU CLIMAT





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# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the new Canadian Climate Forum.

After more than a decade as Canada's premier funder of world-class, university-based climate research, the Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmospheric Sciences (CFCAS) has a new name and a new mandate.

The Canadian Climate Forum—or CCF—began work in 2012/13 to accelerate the uptake of weather and climate science by Canada's key decision makers.

The change heralds the end of an era for the CFCAS, which was established in 2000 to support weather and climate research partnerships across Canada and whose federal mandate ended in March 2012.

Through grants of almost \$120 million for research involving 37 Canadian universities, CFCAS was able to work with partners to invest a total of \$274 million in cash and in-kind support for two dozen pan-national research networks and more than 160 major scientific projects across the country.

During its existence, CFCAS helped support work by more than 462 scientists and 2,200 students or other research personnel across Canada. More than 140 federal scientists participated as partners.

The new CCF is now ready to build on this success.

Relying on the national scientific credibility, authority and community established by the CFCAS, the CCF will work to get CFCAS-funded science and other policy-relevant climate research to the table when climate-relevant decisions are being made—in government, in industries, in communities and elsewhere across the country.



While the end of the CFCAS federal mandate meant less research support to hand out and the need to operate with a smaller secretariat, the Forum was nevertheless able to create its new entity and begin the task of reorienting its focus to knowledge translation, analysis and outreach.

In particular, the Forum ramped up its canvassing of ideas from likeminded organizations and individuals, as well as from potential partners. It started work on necessary new bylaws, administrative plans and institutional obligations. The promise of the new CCF began to take shape.

The Forum's future of promoting climate science and encouraging its uptake by decision makers is overdue and necessary. It will better equip Canadians as they prepare for and adapt to climate change for the benefit of their businesses, their environment and their communities.

The excitement of exploring new ground that once characterized the CFCAS has been passed to its successor. The CCF is ready for the challenge ahead and the promise of new horizons for climate change science and policy in Canada.

Signed,

**Gordon McBean,**  
Chair, Board of Directors

**Dawn Conway,**  
Executive Director



## **THE NEW CCF: MAKING SCIENCE MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

During 2012/13, the new Canadian Climate Forum stepped onto Canada's climate-science-policy stage, determined to see weather and climate knowledge become better known and used.

The Canadian Climate Forum emerged, vital and ready, as the natural successor to the Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmospheric Sciences soon after the federal mandate of the CFCAS finished in March 2012.

It immediately began re-fashioning itself to better ensure CFCAS-backed research and other climate science would reach those who need it most.

Plans developed to build a stronger science-to-policy organization that could accelerate the uptake and use of policy-relevant knowledge on Canada's weather and climate in the creation of effective policy options—especially with respect to climate impacts and adaptations.

The new organization will work with partners to organize and support special workshops and symposia, studies, issues papers and outreach activities related to the climate system and atmospheric sciences, and on impacts of, and adaptation to changing climate conditions.

It is also searching for new sources of funding, sharpening the vision for the CCF's future work, and championing the importance of weather and climate research in Canada.



# WHO WE ARE: TAKING SCIENCE TO CANADIANS

The Canadian Climate Forum is governed by a Board of Directors that includes experts in climate and atmospheric sciences from government, private and university sectors. The Board sets policy and oversees all administrative and financial matters for the Forum. Board directors are currently appointed by council members of the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (CMOS), acting as CFCAS members, though this procedure will change when new bylaws are adopted later in the year. The Board Chair is also the Chief Executive Officer of CCF.

## **2012/13 BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Peter Bartello**, *CMOS president (ex-officio member, July 2012–June 2013)*

**Ed Dean**, *Saskatchewan Environment*

**Ian Church**, *Yukon*

**Maurice Levasseur**, *Laval University*

**Marlon Lewis**, *Dalhousie University (withdrew from Board in 2012)*

**Gordon McBean**, *(chair and CEO), Western University*

**John Mills**, *Pelmorex Media Inc./The Weather Network*

**Lawrence Mysak**, *McGill University*

**Tom Pedersen**, *Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions*

**Kimberly Strong**, *University of Toronto*

**Dawn Conway**, *CCF Executive Director*

## **STAFF**

In 2012/13, the Canadian Climate Forum staff comprised its executive director with assistance, as needed, from outside consultants. This staffing profile was suitable for the transition year to ensure the Forum's agility while maintaining capacity.



# YEAR IN REVIEW

## **2012/13: A SCIENCE-TO-POLICY DEBUT**

During 2012/13, the Canadian Climate Forum stepped forward as the logical successor to the Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmospheric Sciences.

The CFCAS officially changed its name to the CCF and completed the new Forum's mandatory registration under the federal Not for Profit Corporations Act.

At the same time, it expanded the Forum mission statement to reflect its new outreach focus:

*The Canadian Climate Forum is a non-governmental agency dedicated to accelerating the use of the latest weather and climate information to meet the needs of society and the economy.*

The new CCF is expected to promote links and collaboration with regional climate agencies, with governments, policy-makers, scientific leaders, the private sector, and international bodies also committed to climate policy and funding. Its aim is to convert evidence and information on weather and climate into options for use in policies, programs, adaptive actions, tools and leadership development.

Once its new identity and mandate was established, the CCF got to work.

In November 2012, the Forum joined the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and others to support the consolidation of knowledge and the publication of a report on water security and adaptation. The report, called Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation in Canadian Water Resources Management, explored how policies, projects and community actions have supported climate adaptation for water resource management across the country.



## **YEAR IN REVIEW**

The report's publication was augmented by an Internet database called a National Compendium of Water Adaptation Knowledge, that offers access to information and training on water resource adaptation to climate change in Canada.

Meanwhile, the CCF was also able to continue at least some of its research support work. In 2012/13 the Forum received donations from Canadians across the country in support of the Polar Environment Atmospheric Research Laboratory (PEARL). The CCF transferred more than \$3,000 to Dalhousie University where PEARL's research leader holds a Canada Research Chair.

### **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**

The CCF continued where the CFCAS left off in efforts to encourage the federal government to support Canada's vital weather and climate research. The Forum prepared a brief on the importance of sustained weather and climate research for the federal government's pre-budget consultations, and the president of the CCF board presented it in person to the House of Commons Finance Committee on November 19, 2012.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Increasing awareness about weather and climate research emerged as a key objective for the new CCF, but a first important step for the organization in 2012/13 was raising its own profile.

In May/June 2012, for example, the CCF alerted many in the climate science community to its new mandate at the Annual Congress of the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (CMOS) in Montreal.

The new Forum was also featured in a January 2013 edition of Re\$earch Money magazine. An article on it also appeared in the February 2013 edition of International Innovation: Disseminating Science Research and Technology, published by Research Media Ltd. of Bristol, United Kingdom.



## **YEAR IN REVIEW**

The Forum published a final CFCAS newsletter and annual report, both of which are available on the Web. The 2011/12 Annual Report outlined recent activities of the former CFCAS and its planned transition to the new entity.

Like the CFCAS before it, the new CCF maintained a Twitter account for breaking weather and climate science research news. The Twitter newsfeed is featured on the Forum's website.

### **INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY**

Among the new CCF's key aims is maintaining international credibility and presence. In 2012/13, for example, the Forum collaborated with the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF), the U.S. Global Change Research Program and the National Academy of Sciences to coordinate North American involvement in a new international initiative called "Future Earth". The major ten-year research initiative, spearheaded by the International Council for Science (ICSU) and its partners, aims to provide the knowledge that societies need to meet their sustainable development goals in the coming decades.

In May/June 2012, the CCF Board Chair organized an information session on "Future Earth" at the CMOS Congress in Montreal.

Meanwhile, the CCF Board has maintained the international obligations of its CFCAS predecessor by continuing to serve as the Canadian National Committee (CNC) for the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP).



## **YEAR IN REVIEW**

In January 2013, the CCF reported to the National Research Council Canada (NRC) on Canadian activities in WCRP and their influence on the international program. The report allowed an NRC decision on Canada's 2013 payment to WCRP.

In October 2012, the CCF Executive Director contributed to discussions in Sweden at a meeting of the International Group of Funding Agencies for Global Change Research.

### **GRANTING ACTIVITIES**

Following the end of the CFCAS federal mandate, the organization was left with no funds for new research grants during 2012/13 or for the immediate future. Thus, as CCF gears up for the challenge of promoting the uptake of weather and climate science by policy makers, research granting activities are on hold. The CCF bylaws allow for the resumption of research grants when financial and other circumstances permit it in the future.

In the meantime, the Forum continued to receive final reports on several outreach and research initiatives funded in 2011/12.



## **THE FUTURE: EQUIPPING DECISION MAKERS**

The Canadian Climate Forum promises to transform the way weather and climate science affects climate-relevant decisions by industries, governments, non-government groups, communities and individual Canadians right across the country.

In 2012/13, the job of fulfilling this promise was just getting started.

The Forum is currently working to build science and non-science partnerships as well as to secure new sources of stable, long-term support to become a needed link between the researchers who have the science and expertise and the decision makers who need them most. The link is vital if we hope to harness new opportunities or to guard against climate calamities in the years ahead.

Thanks to the legacy of the CFCAS, the Forum is ready and uniquely positioned to help fill growing gaps in weather and climate information critical to improving how Canada responds to the challenges of our changing climate.

Over more than a decade, CFCAS research support created a solid foundation for weather and climate science in Canada. The new CCF is ready to build on this foundation to create a place where Canadians can get the information they need to make the right decisions in these times of change.

The new CCF has partnerships to build and work to do, but it remains resolutely committed to its ultimate goal of a stronger, healthier and more resilient Canada.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2013

## REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Members,  
**The Canadian Climate Forum:**

We have reviewed the statement of financial position of The Canadian Climate Forum as at March 31, 2013 and March 31, 2012 and the statements of operations and changes in net assets and cash flows for the years then ended. Our reviews were made in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements and accordingly consisted primarily of enquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied to us by the Forum.

A review does not constitute an audit and consequently, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Based on our reviews, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that these financial statements are not, in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

*OHCIJ LLP.*

OUSELEY HANVEY CLIPSHAM DEEP LLP  
Licensed Public Accountants

*Ottawa, Ontario  
June 18, 2013*

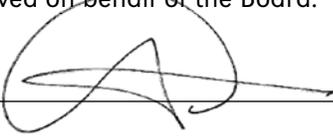


## UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT MARCH 31, 2013

|                                 | 2013       | 2012         |
|---------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| <hr/>                           |            |              |
| CURRENT ASSETS                  |            |              |
| Cash                            | \$ 87,849  | \$ 53,035    |
| Short-term investments (note 3) | 875,090    | 1,302,739    |
| Accrued interest receivable     | 3,999      | 6,167        |
| Accounts receivable             | 2,967      | 17,522       |
| Prepaid expenses                | 22,961     | 23,630       |
|                                 | <hr/>      | <hr/>        |
|                                 | 992,866    | 1,403,093    |
| CAPITAL ASSETS (note 4)         | 1,000      | 1,500        |
|                                 | <hr/>      | <hr/>        |
|                                 | \$ 993,866 | \$ 1,404,593 |
| <hr/>                           |            |              |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES             |            |              |
| Accounts payable                | \$ 257     | \$ 23,455    |
| Accrued liabilities             | 7,163      | 141,732      |
|                                 | <hr/>      | <hr/>        |
|                                 | 7,420      | 165,187      |
| NET ASSETS (unrestricted)       | 986,446    | 1,239,406    |
|                                 | <hr/>      | <hr/>        |
|                                 | \$ 993,866 | \$ 1,404,593 |
| <hr/>                           |            |              |

Approved on behalf of the Board:

  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Director

  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Director



## UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013

|                                 | 2013              | 2012                |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>REVENUE</b>                  |                   |                     |
| Interest income                 | \$ 12,095         | \$ 24,173           |
| Contract service and donations  | 3,525             | 47,327              |
|                                 | <u>15,620</u>     | <u>71,500</u>       |
| <b>EXPENSE</b>                  |                   |                     |
| Research grants                 | -                 | 1,574,354           |
| Salaries and benefits           | 136,731           | 749,211             |
| Rent                            | 35,586            | 85,976              |
| Office supplies and services    | 22,159            | 44,150              |
| Communications and publicity    | 25,974            | 108,786             |
| Other contributions to research | 5,000             | 8,800               |
| Travel and meetings             | 7,579             | 14,911              |
| Professional fees               | 20,237            | 49,179              |
| Insurance                       | 9,112             | 10,109              |
| Workshops                       | -                 | 30,644              |
| Amortization of capital assets  | 500               | 6,295               |
| Board of Trustees               | 5,702             | 30,518              |
| Grants Review Committees        | -                 | 10,883              |
|                                 | <u>268,580</u>    | <u>2,723,816</u>    |
| NET EXPENSE FOR THE YEAR        | (252,960)         | (2,652,316)         |
| NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR  | 1,239,406         | 3,891,722           |
| NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR        | <u>\$ 986,446</u> | <u>\$ 1,239,406</u> |

## UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013

|  | 2013         | 2012           |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| <hr/>                                      |              |                |
| CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR)                |              |                |
| OPERATING ACTIVITIES                       |              |                |
| Net expense for the year                   | \$ (252,960) | \$ (2,652,316) |
| Item not requiring cash:                   |              |                |
| Loss on disposition of capital assets      | -            | 5,434          |
| Amortization of capital assets             | 500          | 6,295          |
|  | <hr/>        | <hr/>          |
|  | (252,460)    | (2,640,587)    |
| Changes in non cash working capital items: |              |                |
| Accrued interest receivable                | 2,168        | (2,160)        |
| Accounts receivable                        | 14,555       | 101,373        |
| Prepaid expenses                           | 669          | (217)          |
| Accounts payable                           | (23,198)     | 15,982         |
| Accrued liabilities                        | (134,569)    | 91,836         |
|  | <hr/>        | <hr/>          |
|  | (392,835)    | (2,433,773)    |
| INVESTING ACTIVITIES                       |              |                |
| Sale (purchase) of investments - net       | 427,649      | (478,093)      |
|  | <hr/>        | <hr/>          |
| INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FOR THE YEAR   | 34,814       | (2,911,866)    |
| CASH BEGINNING OF THE YEAR                 | 53,035       | 2,964,901      |
|  | <hr/>        | <hr/>          |
| CASH END OF YEAR                           | \$ 87,849    | \$ 53,035      |



## **NOTES TO UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

MARCH 31, 2013

### 1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS

The Canadian Climate Forum (“the Forum”) was formerly known as Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmospheric Sciences. The Forum was incorporated on February 23, 2000, under the Canada Corporations Act and has continued under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act. Effective April 1, 2001 the Forum became a registered charity under the Income Tax Act. The purpose of the Forum is to increase the general level of understanding in relation to the climate system and atmospheric sciences.

### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (see note 6) and include the following significant accounting policies:

#### **Revenue Recognition**

Donation revenue is recognized as revenue when received. Interest income is recorded as revenue when it is earned.

#### **Capital Assets**

Computers and other equipment are recorded at cost. Amortization is provided on a straight-line basis over a period of 3 years.

#### **Financial Instruments**

Financial instruments are initially recognized at fair value and are subsequently measured at cost, amortized cost or cost less appropriate allowances for impairment.

#### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of these financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. These estimates are reviewed annually and as adjustments become necessary, they are recorded in the financial statements in the period in which they become known.

## NOTES TO UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2014

### 3. SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS

Short-term investments consist of a GIC earning interest at an annual rate of 1.2%, and matures November 14, 2013.

### 4. CAPITAL ASSETS

|                               |          |                             | 2013     | 2012     |
|-------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|----------|----------|
|                               | Cost     | Accumulated<br>Amortization | Net      | Net      |
| Computers and other equipment | \$ 1,500 | \$ 500                      | \$ 1,000 | \$ 1,500 |

### 5. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial instruments of the Forum consist of cash, accrued interest receivable, accounts receivable, investments, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Forum is not exposed to significant interest rate, currency, credit, liquidity or market risks arising from its financial instruments and the carrying amount of the financial instruments approximate their fair value.

### 6. ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTING STANDARDS FOR NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Effective April 1, 2012 the Forum adopted the requirements of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) Handbook - Accounting, electing to adopt the new accounting framework: Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNFPO). These are the Forum's first financial statements prepared in accordance with ASNFPO which has been applied retrospectively. The significant accounting policies in note 2 have been applied in preparing these financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2013 and the comparative information presented in these financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2012 and in the preparation of the opening statement of financial position as at April 1, 2011 (the Forum's date of transition).

The Forum issued financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2012 using generally accepted accounting principles prescribed by CICA Handbook - Accounting V. The adoption of ASNFPO had no impact on the previously reported assets, liabilities and net assets of the Forum, and accordingly; no adjustments have been recorded in the comparative statements of financial position, operations and changes in net assets, and cash flows; and the opening statement of financial position has not been presented.





**CANADIAN CLIMATE FORUM**  
**LE FORUM CANADIEN DU CLIMAT**

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