



BRIDGING THE DIVIDE

Annual Report 2013-2014



CANADIAN CLIMATE FORUM
LE FORUM CANADIEN DU CLIMAT

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

If the need for climate science was ever in question, the question was answered in 2013/14 with the release of the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

The report – issued every seven years – confirmed that the world’s climate is changing more rapidly than previously predicted and world leadership must do more to avoid further human and economic costs. Their climate-relevant decisions will impact everything from food security and invasive species to social stability and threats to territorial sovereignty.

The report’s message served to highlight the unique and vital role of the new Canadian Climate Forum.

The CCF is committed to bridging the divide between Canada’s top weather and climate scientists and leading decision makers in governments, industries, non-government groups and in other organizations and communities across Canada.

During 2013/14, the CCF continued to map its future and to develop and consolidate its mandate and its structure. This included a concerted effort to expand its membership from the key actors on Canada’s climate science and policy stage.

Much of the effort during the Forum’s first full year was devoted to getting word out about the CCF and the importance of its work on weather and climate issues.

For instance, the Forum offered an Information Session for the Public and the Media in Ottawa on April 22, 2014, following the IPCC release of its Working Group II report on Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Four Canadians who had been lead authors or editors for the IPCC reports explained the significance of the IPCC’s latest publication for Canada. Media and public interest in the event was good.



Behind the scenes, the CCF worked through much of the year meeting and making key connections with potential partners to help the Forum better achieve and sustain its science-to-policy mission. These included key industry associations such as the Insurance Bureau of Canada, provincial governments, federal agencies, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Assembly of First Nations and philanthropic foundations. The Forum also met with like-minded regional organizations across Canada to build crucial alliances.

The consensus from these meetings was resounding: the CCF is uniquely positioned to address what many perceive as gaps in Canada's science-and-policy fabric—especially in the wake of changes to a number of other important federal agencies and organizations, including the closure of the National Roundtable of the Environment and the Economy (NRTEE) in March 2013.

The Forum has a big job ahead and is readying itself for the challenge.

The year's ground-breaking IPCC report is clear: "Adaptation and mitigation choices in the near-term will affect the risks of climate change throughout the 21st century." If those choices are the right ones, they must have the benefit of the best available climate science as evidence.

The new CCF has begun the work of helping to ensure they do.

Signed,



Gordon McBean,
Chair, Board of Directors



Dawn Conway,
Executive Director



THE CCF: BUILDING A SCIENCE-TO-POLICY COMMUNITY

The year 2013/14 was a formative one for the Canadian Climate Forum.

The organization continued to consolidate its mandate and structure, to raise its profile and to grow its influential community of science and non-science partners.

The CCF is Canada's national, non-profit organization committed to ensuring top weather-and-climate knowledge is at the table whenever climate-relevant decisions are made—by governments, industries, non-government groups and others right across the country.

It is the successor to the Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmospheric Sciences, the country's premier funder of university-based weather and climate research for more than a decade before the end of its federal mandate in March 2012.

This remarkable CFCAS legacy has helped to underpin CCF's science community. Efforts during 2013/14 sought to build a complementary community of influential non-science members representing a variety of climate-relevant sectors such as industry, non-government groups and others.

Communications efforts, including an introductory brochure and a first issues paper on extreme weather, helped lay the groundwork. Participation in a number of climate-relevant symposia also helped to increase awareness of the Forum and its mandate through the year.

The year's climate news and other events brought the importance of the CCF promise into stark relief. The Forum worked during 2013/14 to build a credible and collaborative organization ready to fulfil that promise.



WHO WE ARE: FORGING TIES

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 were initially appointed by council members of the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (CMOS), acting as CFCAS members. In 2013/14, this role was assumed by the Forum's members. A rotation pattern will ensure Board renewal. The Board Chair is also the Chief Executive Officer of CCF.

2013/14 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

Ed Dean, *Saskatchewan Environment*

Ian Church, *Yukon*

Maurice Levasseur, *Laval University*

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

Lawrence Mysak, *McGill University*

Tom Pedersen, *Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions*

Kimberly Strong, *University of Toronto (resigned in summer 2013)*

Dawn Conway, *CCF Executive Director*

STAFF

In 2013/14, the secretariat of the Canadian Climate Forum remained small. Staff comprised its executive director with assistance, as needed, from outside consultants.



YEAR IN REVIEW

2013/14: A FOUNDATION FOR PARTNERSHIPS

Building on the robust climate research community created by the Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmospheric Sciences (CFCAS), the new Canadian Climate Forum began the 2013/14 year developing an equally robust community of non-science members to partner in science-to-policy initiatives or to help support the Forum and its work.

Overall, the CCF was represented in more than 50 meetings with 73 mainly executive or senior representatives of 46 departments, agencies and associations from industry, government, non-government and environmental groups across the country, to learn about the national climate-science-and-policy landscape, to gauge interest in the Forum's work and to bolster the CCF membership.

Many organizations signalled their interest in becoming involved or vowed to continue discussions about future participation. These included provincial governments, industry associations (e.g., the Insurance Bureau of Canada, the Canadian Electricity Association, the Forest Products Association of Canada, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Assembly of First Nations, Clean Energy Canada at Tides Canada, and many others.

Efforts to increase the number of CCF science members continued as well.

The release of the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) put climate change fully into the media spotlight once again, and the CCF stepped up to help. The Forum's information session for the public and the media, held in Ottawa on April 22, 2014, featured four leading Canadian climate researchers who had been lead authors or editors of IPCC reports in the past and who explained the latest publication in a Canadian context.



YEAR IN REVIEW

The CCF's profile was also increased with its participation in a number of important climate-relevant meetings and symposia. For example, the Forum participated in the inaugural symposium of the Ontario Climate Consortium, held in Toronto in May 2013. It also joined—and sponsored—the October 21-23, 2013 Symposium on Science and Society, organized by the Institute for Science, Society and Policy (ISSP) based at the University of Ottawa.

Toward the end of the year, the CCF completed the planning and logistics for a symposium of its own. “Extreme Weather: Impacts, Challenges and Adaptations” would be held at the Fairmont Chateau Laurier Hotel in Ottawa on April 23-24, 2014 with a report on the meeting set for release that summer.

Extreme weather was also the subject of the CCF's first Issues Paper published by the organization in December 2013. The Issues Paper series is intended to provide brief, timely and thorough backgrounders on weather and climate issues with policy relevance.

The Forum also joined a new consortium of Canadian and U.S. universities, agencies and institutes, entitled “Economics for the Anthropocene”. The consortium, led by McGill University, is to be funded under the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council's Partnership Grants program.

Some of the CCF work during 2013/14 continued to follow directly from the CFCAS legacy. For instance, the Forum continued to receive donations from across Canada in support of the Polar Environment Atmospheric Research Laboratory (PEARL) which has faced reduced research funding since 2012. In December 2013, the CCF transferred \$550 to Dalhousie University for work at the High Arctic station. PEARL's research leader holds a Canada Research Chair at Dalhousie.



YEAR IN REVIEW

Other CCF activities during 2013/14 included the Forum's move from its former Sparks Street building to a new home alongside the environmental policy academics and institutes at the University of Ottawa in April 2013. The CCF's new offices put it in close proximity to key university-affiliated science-policy institutes including the Institute for Science, Society and Policy (ISSP) and Sustainable Prosperity (SP).

OUTREACH

Building partnerships with public and private sector leaders was a key priority for the new CCF during 2013/14.

Through the year, the Forum met with top representatives from governments, industries, non-government groups, environmental organizations and philanthropic foundations.

Through meetings with 73 mainly executive or senior-level people from 46 departments, agencies and associations representing the gamut of Canadian sectors, the CCF improved its understanding of how best to make climate science accessible and relevant to decision makers.

These meetings also provided important opportunities to gauge interest in the CCF and its mission, to build the Forum's non-science membership and to begin to create a foundation for future, stable financial support for the organization.

Fourteen agencies and organizations signalled their willingness to become involved and were set to become Institutional Members of the CCF pending approval of an amendment to the Forum's bylaws establishing this category of membership (see sidebar "Growing Influence"). Some of these also committed to putting forward candidates for consideration for sector seats on the Forum's Board of Directors in the future.



YEAR IN REVIEW

Meanwhile, discussions with many other key sectors concerning future participation with, or support for, the Forum were ongoing. The CCF also continued to recruit members to increase its community of researchers and committed individuals from other sectors.

COMMUNICATIONS

The CCF's mission to encourage the uptake of weather and climate science by key Canadian decision makers requires, first and foremost, that Canadians, including government and industry leaders, are aware of the Forum and its work.

A first order of business, for example, was to produce and publish a brief, descriptive brochure about the Forum and its new mission. The brochure was distributed widely, including to delegates at the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (CMOS) Congress in Saskatoon on May 26-30, 2013.

In December 2013, the Forum published an "Issues Paper" on climate change and extreme weather. The publication was the first in a series of short, authoritative and issue-relevant backgrounders to help decision makers make sense of pressing weather and climate subjects. The paper was distributed widely and was well received.

GROWING INFLUENCE

To achieve its science-to-policy mission, the CCF is building vital collaborative relationships with key sectors and with leading agencies and organizations across the country. Out of this work during 2013/14, many vital partnerships emerged or began to develop. By year end, 14 nationally or regionally influential groups and organizations had committed to becoming CCF Institutional Members.

1. **Adaptation to Climate Change (ACT) group at Simon Fraser University**
2. **The Assembly of First Nations (AFN)**
3. **Ontario Climate Consortium (OCC)**
4. **Canadian Electricity Association (CEA)**
5. **Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA)**
6. **The Government of Manitoba (Environmental Stewardship Division)**
7. **The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)**
8. **The Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC)**
9. **Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC)**
10. **The Northern Climate Exchange (Yukon College)**
11. **The Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS)**
12. **The Pembina Institute**
13. **Sustainable Prosperity (SP) at the University of Ottawa**
14. **Clean Energy Canada**



YEAR IN REVIEW

The Forum also continued its long association with the Science Media Centre of Canada (SMCC), a national charitable organization that promotes Canadian research and supports journalists across Canada writing about the sciences, engineering and technology. The CCF provided a donation towards the SMCC's activities.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

The CCF continued its efforts through 2013/14 to maintain a significant international presence.

On May 30, 2013, for example, the Forum's Chair hosted an international Webinar on "Future Earth" at the annual symposium of the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (CMOS) in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

"Future Earth" is a major, international, ten-year research initiative of the International Council for Science (ICSU) and its partners that is expected to deliver needed knowledge to world societies to help them meet sustainable development goals in coming decades.

Throughout the year, the Forum collaborated with the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the U.S. National Science Foundation, the U.S. Global Change Research Program and the National Academy of Sciences to coordinate North American involvement in "Future Earth". In October 2013, the CCF coordinated the Canadian response to a tri-national survey on the initiative.

Meanwhile, the CCF Board continued its work as the Canadian National Committee (CNC) for the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP). In December 2013, 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 2014 payment to WCRP. A payment of \$8,200 was released in April 2014.



YEAR IN REVIEW

In October 2013, the Forum ended its participation with the International Group of Funding Agencies for Global Change Research (IGFA). This act acknowledges that the Forum is no longer a grant-giving body and that the role of representing Canadian interests in the IGFA group is now more appropriately served by NSERC.

GRANTING ACTIVITIES

The granting activities of the CCF are on hold. In October 2013, however, the Forum's Board approved a small supplementary grant to a glacier project for the publication of scientific posters that could be used with community groups and in schools. In March 2014, it also extended the duration of a second grant to facilitate outreach.



THE FUTURE: A CLIMATE OF COLLABORATION

The stark facts of this year's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fifth Assessment Report leave no doubt about the need for active collaboration between experts who can inform good decisions and leaders who must make them.

The climate-science-to-policy mission of the CCF, therefore, is imperative.

A year of canvassing Canada's climate change policy leaders has confirmed this conclusion: the CCF represents an important and singular opportunity to transform how climate change and climate change adaptation is talked about at decision-making tables across the country.

Recognition of this CCF opportunity is based, in part, on the widespread realization that more science is needed wherever climate-relevant decisions are being made by governments, industry and other key sectors that affect our economy, our environment and our way of life.

The CCF's scientific credibility, authority and community make it uniquely qualified to help meet this science-policy challenge.

But achieving success won't be easy. The hard work of the Forum has only just begun.

In 2013/14, many leading national agencies and organizations signalled their support for the CCF and/or have said they will join as members. In the days ahead, the Forum will continue to make collaborative partnerships a priority. These science and non-science links will help lead the way to fulfilling the organization's mission.

The Forum's community and partners will also be crucial in future efforts to secure new sources of stable, long-term financial support. This work will begin in earnest in the days ahead.

The job of the CCF is to encourage leadership and a creative collaborative community where the weather and climate message is not only heard but understood and acted upon as well.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2014

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, 2014 and the statements of operations and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. Our review was 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 review, 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.

OHCID LLP.

OUSELEY HANVEY CLIPSHAM DEEP LLP
Licensed Public Accountants

*Ottawa, Ontario
May 30, 2014*



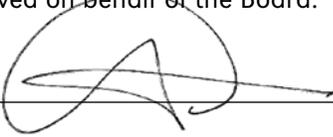
BRIDGING THE DIVIDE

UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT MARCH 31, 2014

	2014	2013
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 41,016	\$ 87,849
Short-term investments (note 3)	691,446	875,090
Accrued interest receivable	1,910	3,999
Accounts receivable	3,716	2,967
Prepaid expenses	8,435	22,961
	746,523	992,866
CAPITAL ASSETS (note 4)	500	1,000
	\$ 747,023	\$ 993,866
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 4,300	\$ 257
Accrued liabilities	9,824	7,163
Deferred revenue	1,947	-
	16,071	7,420
NET ASSETS (unrestricted)	730,952	986,446
	\$ 747,023	\$ 993,866

Approved on behalf of the Board:

 Director
 Director



UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2014

	2014	2013
REVENUE		
Interest income	\$ 8,078	\$ 12,095
Donations	1,030	3,525
	<u>9,108</u>	<u>15,620</u>
EXPENSE		
Research grants	4,540	-
Salaries and benefits	113,264	136,731
Rent	11,963	35,586
Office supplies and services	21,643	22,159
Communications and publicity	78,224	25,974
Other contributions to research	-	5,000
Travel and meetings	6,305	7,579
Professional fees	14,430	20,237
Insurance	7,157	9,112
Amortization of capital assets	500	500
Board of Trustees	6,576	5,702
	<u>264,602</u>	<u>268,580</u>
NET EXPENSE FOR THE YEAR	(255,494)	(252,960)
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	986,446	1,239,406
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 730,952</u>	<u>\$ 986,446</u>



UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2014

	2014	2013
<hr/>		
CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR)		
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net expense for the year	\$ (255,494)	\$ (252,960)
Item not requiring cash:		
Amortization of capital assets	500	500
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(254,994)	(252,460)
Changes in non cash working capital items:		
Accrued interest receivable	2,089	2,168
Accounts receivable	(749)	14,555
Prepaid expenses	14,526	669
Accounts payable	4,043	(23,198)
Accrued liabilities	2,661	(134,569)
Deferred revenue	1,947	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(230,477)	(392,835)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Sale of investments - net	183,644	427,649
	<hr/>	<hr/>
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FOR THE YEAR	(46,833)	34,814
CASH BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	87,849	53,035
	<hr/>	<hr/>
CASH END OF YEAR	\$ 41,016	\$ 87,849
	<hr/>	<hr/>



NOTES TO UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2014

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 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 January 8, 2015.

4. CAPITAL ASSETS

			2014	2013
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net	Net
Computers and other equipment	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,000	\$ 500	\$ 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.





CANADIAN CLIMATE FORUM
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