



CLIMATEFAST

LET'S ACT ON CLIMATE - **FAST!**

## NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2021

The ClimateFast newsletter shares information about the Climate Crisis that may interest our readers, and does not necessarily reflect the views of ClimateFast members.

### NEWS

#### NET ZERO BY 2040 PLAN PASSES!

A nearly unanimous Toronto City Council voted for the Net Zero by 2040 Strategy. Nearly 50 oral deputations and more than 500 letters were received by the Infrastructure and Environment Committee and became part of the city's record. Individual letters to councillors and the Mayor and an online petition added to the community support for the plan. Toronto now becomes the first large city in Canada and just one of three in North America to adopt this target. Climate change is accelerating and dangerous tipping points threaten our future so it is essential we cut our emissions 65% by 2030, as called for by this plan. Thanks is due to Councillor Mike Layton for introducing the motion and doing so much to keep the city moving on climate justice - and to so many councillors and the Mayor for their support. Let's go TO! Fund Net Zero!

For more information, read the [TransformTO](#) report and this [City News article](#).

Read the motion plus amendments [here](#) and John Lorinc commentary in [Spacing Magazine](#)



Youth from Fridays for Future celebrate Toronto's commitment to Net Zero by 2040 (passed at Council on Dec 15) and call on councillors to fund the program.

**No more broken promises!**

*Photo credit: Angela Bichoff*

*l-r: Kasha Slavner, Zoe Keary-Matzner, and Chloe Tse*



ClimateFast is among many voices calling for the financial resources to make this plan a reality.

*Photo credit: Angela Bichoff*

*l-r: Lyn Adamson, Anne Keary, Zoe Keary-Matzner, udith Lawrence, Chloe Tse, Kasha Slavner, and Marla Slavner*

## More Good News from City Council

On December 15th City Councillors also voted to make 2020 #ActiveTO bike lanes permanent & add another 100 km over next 3 years! Congrats to [CycleTO](#) for your advocacy!

## Doomsday Glacier - the need for mobilization is urgent!

The news that the ["Doomsday" glacier's last-remaining ice shelf could collapse within 5 years](#)", is a reminder about what Seth Klein said in this book [The Good War: Mobilizing Canada for the Climate Emergency](#), which included: *"to confront the climate emergency a wartime approach is needed .... Climate breakdown requires a new mindset — to mobilize all of society, galvanize our politics and fundamentally remake our economy."* [Join the Mobilization](#)

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## CALLS TO ACTION

### Defund Coastal GasLink Rally

All out for Wet'suwet'en! RBC is bankrolling and profiting off of a pipeline that will destroy Wet'suwet'en territory and fuel the climate crisis. Join us as we gather to demand that RBC stop funding Coastal GasLink fracked gas pipeline and respect Indigenous rights.

**What:** Defund Coastal GasLink Rally

**When:** Tuesday, December 21st starting at 4 pm

**Where:** RBC Headquarters, 180 Wellington St W, Toronto

**Featured Speaker:** Eve Saint, Wet'suwet'en Land Defender



**Why RBC?** RBC is not only the lead on a 1.6 billion dollar loan to TC energy to build the Coastal GasLink pipeline, it owns 8% of TC Energy. In this way, RBC is paying for and profiting off of land theft, Indigenous rights violations, and the destruction of our shared climate.

Recognizing the recent activity between Land Defenders and RBC, it is important we keep the pressure up, and let investors know that they can't escape the pressure to divest CGL - even during their holiday season

[Find out more, share and sign up](#) for the RBC Wet'suwet'en Solidarity Action on December 21st.

You can also get involved by joining the **International Week of Action to Defund Coastal GasLink** starting **December 20** - See the [Facebook page](#) and the [social media toolkit](#).

## Some Background on CGL, RBC and the Wet'suwet'en Nation:

The Hereditary Chiefs of the Wet'suwet'en Nation oppose the construction of the Coastal GasLink natural gas pipeline in their territory. On October 19th, Gidimt'en, one of five clans of the Wet'suwet'en Nation, sent out a letter to CGL investors calling them to divest from the project, and received the [following letter](#) from RBC. Gidimt'en issued their [response to RBC](#) and are asking groups to amplify their message using this [share package](#). In addition, the [Yintah Access](#), who are defending access to the Gidimt'en territory just released this call for a [Week of Action](#) starting December 20th, targeting the investors of CGL.

The National Observer recently published the article "[Canada's Supreme Court recognizes Wet'suwet'en law. So how is Coastal GasLink moving ahead?](#)", which gives a detailed summary of the issues involved in the CGL pipeline. They also reported that "[Hundreds of academics condemn RCMP, governments over Coastal GasLink crisis](#)" in an [open letter](#) calling for government intervention in the wake of RCMP enforcement of an injunction granted to Coastal GasLink.

ClimateFast recently issued a [Statement of Solidarity with the Wet'suwet'en People](#).

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## Climate Fast Endorses Ad to Stop Highway 413 and the Bradford Bypass



The Highway 413 and the Bradford Bypass that the provincial government is determined to build would bulldoze hundreds of acres of Greenbelt and thousands of acres of prime farmland - while adding more cars to the GTA's gridlock. This is why ClimateFast joined 100 other community groups in endorsing a full page ad from Environmental Defense in the December 12th edition of the Toronto Star.

[Take action](#) now by calling on the the Ontario government to cancel Highway 413 and the Bradford Bypass.

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## Fossil Fuel Workers Call for a Just Transition



Iron & Earth is a worker-led not-for-profit with a mission to empower fossil fuel industry and Indigenous workers to build and implement climate solutions. They want to make sure that Just Transition consultations are worker-led and have already conducted a poll with fossil fuel workers. They aim to speak directly with 100 fossil fuel workers by the end of February 2022.

[Learn more and spread the word](#)

## RESOURCES



The New York Times has published [Postcards From a World on Fire](#). This multi-media project shows the reality of climate change in every country in the world. Be sure to watch the last video at the very bottom of the interactive article. It sends a powerful message from the New York Times editorial board.



### TDSB Youth Climate Action Guide

The Toronto District School Board has just launched its new [Climate Action Guide](#) for middle and high school students. If you, or someone you know, has students in the TDSB please let them know about it. It would be great to get this guide into the hands of as many students, teachers and parents as possible!





ClimateFast participants are volunteers; your donation will be used for expenses such as mailings, flyers, room rental and transportation. Your support is very much appreciated!

You may donate [online](#) or by cheque, made payable to:

ClimateFast  
and mail c/o Lyn Adamson  
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