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10 May 2013

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa ON K1A 0A2

OUR FUTURE IN A WORLD AT RISK?

Reference: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) report from the Mauna Loa Observatory (MLO), dated 10 May 2013

Dear Prime Minister,

During the past seven years, I believe you have demonstrated a high level of leadership and strong moral courage as Prime Minister of Canada. For that, I thank you. You have a tough role, and I am proud of the position and direction we have taken as a nation. As I look to the future, the landscape appears markedly less positive. Indeed, one need not look too far into the future to observe that a most difficult task lay ahead of us. It is precisely this point, upon which I would like to open up discussion. I am not a scientist, nor am I an environmentalist. I am the founder and President of a renewable energy company, a retired infantry major (PPCLI), and a patriotic Canadian, who sees a rather large storm on the horizon that is moving quickly toward us.

As observed at the Mauna Loa Observatory (MLO), the earth appears to have passed a milestone with respect to the concentration level of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere. It is reported that we have crossed a threshold of greater than 400 parts per million (ppm), which is stated to be a condition that has not existed for more than several million years on our planet. Please do not misunderstand me; I am not a panic stricken, doomsday prophesier, I have simply reached the point of being moved to action, and hence, I write this letter to you.

I confess that I operate a business in the renewable energy sector, and as such, I do pay attention to industry related matters. As a business leader, I recognise that a conversation regarding more thoughtful interaction with our environment must include the impact on business, our economy, our quality of life, and votes in the next election, as much as it does a sustainable future. In addition, I acknowledge that Canada contributes a small amount of emissions in comparison with that of West or East Asia, Europe, and the United States. A point, which makes it more imperative that Canada take a strong role in leading other nations and to develop policies and commit funds to effect change.

Our federal environmental policies have been lacking due to the apathy of our general population, and the fact that aggressive action would be unfavourable to a large segment of our economy. I call upon you to exercise the same leadership and moral courage you have demonstrated in so many other areas in the past, and to formally request that your office begins in earnest to take our changing climate, and the potential impact on our world, seriously. I offer my assistance in any way that may be useful to support the effort. The time has come to wake people up, to become aware of the consequences of our actions, and to take a strong leadership role on the world stage. I do believe it is as simple as that. From the family that is struggling to make things meet day-to-day, to the largest and most powerful corporations that decide the outcome of most issues today, we must engage everyone, on every level, and change the way we treat our planet. Everything we do to our planet, we do to ourselves.

I thank you kindly for your time, and for your consideration of this matter. This is not a change that I expect will happen in a short period of time. Nor is it one that I necessarily expect will even begin in the near future. But the conversation needs to start now. The risk to us for having the conversation is null. The risk to us for not having the conversation, and for failing to take some form of action, no matter how small, is total. I will await your response, and look forward to our continued discussion. Lead on, Sir.

Sincerely,

Major (Ret.) W.M. Beardmore, CD
President & CEO
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