

# Taking the Leap: Climate Policy and the Canadian Election

Global Research News Hour episode 114

By [Michael Welch](#) and [Dahr Jamail](#)

Global Research, October 01, 2015

Region: [Canada](#), [USA](#)

Theme: [Environment](#), [GLOBAL RESEARCH NEWS HOUR](#)

*“For human beings to degrade the integrity of the earth by causing changes in its climate, by stripping the earth of its natural forests or destroying its wetlands; for human beings to contaminate the earth’s waters, its land, its air, and its life – these are sins”. For “to commit a crime against the natural world is a sin against ourselves and a sin against God” -Pope Francis, [ENCYCLICAL LETTER LAUDATO SI’ ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME](#)*

## LISTEN TO THE SHOW



Length (59:01)

[Click to download the audio \(MP3 format\)](#)

The warning signs of abrupt climate disruption are evident to anyone willing to look.

[Business Day Online](#) reported last August that climate change is threatening food production in Nigeria.

[A giant toxic algae bloom](#) possibly linked to climate change now spans the West Coast of North America from Southern California to the Aleutian Islands.

[A study](#) has linked California’s drought to climate change.

Satellites registered in August that [Greenland’s Jakobshavn Isbrae Glacier lost 12.5 square kilometres of sea ice](#) in a two day period.

Given the gravity of the situation, and the stakes for humanity, Canada’s policy on addressing the climate catastrophe warrants serious attention in the country’s federal election.

Sadly, none of the major political parties appear to do much more than offer lip service in the face of a global dilemma that threatens the future of humanity.

But in the midst of the campaign, an ambitious call to arms has gone out from prominent Canadian authors, artists, national leaders, and activists. [The Leap Manifesto: A Call for a Canada Based on Caring for the Earth and One Another](#), demands respect for Indigenous

rights, transition off of fossil fuels to renewables within a couple of decades, and the introduction of a basic annual income, a progressive carbon tax, higher income taxes on the wealthy and corporations, a program of new energy efficient home construction and retrofits, high speed rail, and affordable transit, as well as cuts to military spending among other initiatives. It also calls for “an end to all trade deals that interfere with our attempts to rebuild local economies, regulate corporations and stop damaging extractive projects.”

The manifesto has largely been dismissed by politicians and pundits in Canada. Even Canada’s NDP, a left-leaning, social democratic party, has apparently [distanced itself from the document](#).

Given the research of individuals like [Guy McPherson](#), it is conceivable that even this supposedly “pie in the sky” proposal does not go far enough to stop our world from careening off the climate cliff.

*The Leap Manifesto was announced about the same time one of its authors, **Avi Lewis**, was debuting his film [This Changes Everything](#), based on the book of the same name. The film shifts the frame of normal discourse around climate change, and profiles communities making the necessary changes.*

*Mr. Lewis joins us in the first half hour to talk about his film and the manifesto in the context of the current election.*

*In the second half hour, a past guest, **Dahr Jamail** returns. Jamail writes [a monthly dispatch on climate change](#) based on the most recent scientific discoveries. In this interview he comments on the severity of the climate threat, evaluates the aforementioned Leap Manifesto, and candidly discusses the form real solutions will have to take.*

## **LISTEN TO THE SHOW**



Length (59:01)

[Click to download the audio \(MP3 format\)](#)

The [Global Research News Hour](#) airs every Friday at 1pm CT on [CKUW 95.9FM](#) in Winnipeg. The programme is also podcast at [globalresearch.ca](#) .

The show can be heard on the Progressive Radio Network at [prn.fm](#). Listen in every Monday at 3pm ET.

Community Radio Stations carrying the Global Research News Hour:

CFUV 101. 9 FM in Victoria. Airing Sundays from 7-8am PT.

CHLY 101.7 FM in Nanaimo, B.C – Thursdays at 1pm PT

Boston College Radio [WZBC 90.3FM NEWTONS](#) during the Truth and Justice Radio Programming slot -Sundays at 7am ET.

[Port Perry Radio](#) in Port Perry, Ontario – Thursdays at 1pm ET

[Burnaby Radio Station CJSF out of Simon Fraser University](#). 90.1FM to most of Greater Vancouver, from Langley to Point Grey and from the North Shore to the US Border. It is also available on 93.9 FM cable in the communities of SFU, Burnaby, New Westminister, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Surrey and Delta, in British Columbia Canada. – Tune in every Saturday at 6am.

The original source of this article is Global Research  
Copyright © [Michael Welch](#) and [Dahr Jamail](#), Global Research, 2015

---

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Michael Welch](#)  
and [Dahr Jamail](#)

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)  
[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)