

For immediate release:

Carbon Tax Stickers to combat “Pumpaganda” of Gas Pump Stickers

Grassroots Network Launches Carbon Tax and Refund Awareness Campaign

A non-partisan group of citizen activists across Ontario are launching a public information campaign about the effectiveness of the carbon tax to combat climate change. This coincides with the August 30th deadline for stickers on all Ontario gas pumps that highlights only the costs of the carbon tax – but says nothing about the benefits.

The website, CarbonTaxWorks.ca, is launching today to set the record straight about the carbon tax, with information from reputable sources like the Federal Parliamentary Budget Office, a non-partisan office that is part of the House of Commons. It released a [study](#) in April 2019 that shows [80% of Ontarians](#) will get more money back than they spent on the carbon tax.

“The Ontario government stickers are misinformation, pure and simple,” says Kevin Thomason, a Waterloo volunteer with Carbon Tax Works. “They say that the carbon tax will cost us – but there is no mention that everyone who paid taxes this year has already received a refund that, for most of us, is more than what we’ll pay in carbon taxes. This is gas-pumpaganda.”

People can order stickers of their own that say, “Tax carbon. Get refund. Save planet. Repeat.”

“It’s the simplest way to say it we could think of,” says Thomason. “Economists of all political stripes are calling carbon taxes the most effective way reduce greenhouse gases. If we don’t, the costs to our community will be astronomically higher than what we are paying at the pump.”

The majority of Canadians are very concerned about our climate crisis. Be it global issues such as massive fires, drought and climate refugees, or local impacts such as flooding, new invasive species that are bringing impacts such as Lyme disease to Waterloo Region, and the increasing severity of storms.

“We are enraged that provincial tax dollars are going to misleading people and trying to stop efforts to save lives,” says Thomason. “That’s what this is about.”

Our collective of local activists from communities across the province are planning a big Ontario-wide push on September 6 and 7. Here in Waterloo Region, citizens will be distributing flyers and stickers and encouraging people to learn more at www.carbontaxworks.ca.

For more information, please contact Kevin Thomason at kevinthomason@mac.com or 519-240-1648.

**TAX
CARBON.**

**GET
REFUND.**

**SAVE
PLANET.**

REPEAT.

CARBONTAXWORKS.CA

What is the carbon tax?

It's a price on pollution, specifically carbon dioxide – the leading contributor to climate change. Every person and business (except for farming) in Ontario that uses carbon-based fuels pays the carbon tax.

How much do I have to pay?

The more fuel you use, the more carbon tax you pay. The less fuel you use, the less carbon tax you pay. The non-partisan Federal Parliamentary Budget Office estimates the average Ontario household will likely pay about \$256 this year.

I've heard about a carbon tax refund. How do I get it?

You already got your first rebate if you sent off your income tax return in April. Every year you submit your income tax return, you get the rebate for the next year. When the tax increases, your rebate will increase as well.

How much do I get from the refund?

- A single person gets \$154. Two people living together get \$231. Two parents with two kids get \$303.
- If you live in rural Ontario you get 10% more to cover the extra costs of living in the country.
- If you're a farmer, the fuel you use to farm is exempt.

80% of Ontarians will get a larger refund than what they pay in carbon taxes.

Does promoting the carbon tax mean I'm being partisan?

No. In January 2019, more than 3,500 U.S. economists of all political stripes – including 27 Nobel prize winners – wrote in an open letter, "**A carbon tax offers the most cost-effective lever to reduce carbon emissions at the scale and speed that is necessary.**" (clcouncil.org/economists-statement)

**MORE QUESTIONS ANSWERED
AT CARBONTAXWORKS.CA**