



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 10, 2010**

New policy and speaker series will contribute ideas to national energy and climate change policy development

(Calgary, AB) – Today the Calgary Chamber of Commerce and the Canada West Foundation launched the *Changing The Climate* policy and speaker series. The initiative will host experts to explore key energy and climate change topics, culminating in a major policy paper with strategic recommendations. T. Boone Pickens headlines the speaker line-up.

“Our country needs a vision of energy and climate change that recognizes the interdependency of Canadian and U.S. energy systems, encourages continuous improvement of environmental performance, and drives technology development,” said Geoff Pradella, Vice-President of Public and Government Affairs with the Calgary Chamber of Commerce. “This vision should not adversely affect North American trade relations or create regional disparities.”

The series, which brings together the business community, a leading public policy institute in the Canada West Foundation, and international experts, will explore energy and environmental policy development in a Canadian and continental context. Economic implications and the potential of new technology will also be covered.

“Canada requires a national energy and environmental strategy that supports a strong west, and positions Canada as a reliable and responsible North American energy producer,” said Roger Gibbins, President and CEO of the Canada West Foundation.

The first speaker in the series, Laura Lochman, Consul General of the United States, provided an update on U.S. energy and climate change policy to a breakfast crowd. Other prominent speakers in the series include Eric Newell, Chairman of the Alberta Climate Change and Emissions Management Corporation, and Jim Carter, Chairman of the Alberta Carbon Capture and Storage Development Council. Additional speakers may be announced.

A portion of the Calgary Chamber of Commerce website will document findings.

- 30 -

Backgrounder - *Changing The Climate: Canada's New Energy Environment*

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BACKGROUNDER

Changing The Climate: Canada's New Energy Environment

What is the *Changing The Climate* series?

The series brings together the Calgary business community, a leading public policy institute, thought leaders, national and international experts, decision-makers, legislators and implementers to inform and help shape public discourse on a range of energy and environmental topics, both nationally and in a North American context. Key topics for discussion include:

1. Continental Energy and Climate Change Policy
 - What will be the impact of U.S. energy and climate change policies on Canada, and to what extent should Canada harmonize?
2. Canadian Domestic Energy and Environmental Policy
 - To what extent should the federal government establish national carbon reduction targets, and how can regional and provincial disparities be minimized?
3. Economic Implications of Climate Change Policy
 - What is the true consumer cost of the climate change policies being considered?
4. Energy Technology and Economic Transformation
 - What is the potential of new technology in carbon reduction and what is the role of green energy and jobs in the new economy?

Changing the Climate explores these topics through a variety of keynote speaker presentations, policy dialogue roundtables, workshops, debates and public policy research. The program will launch in May 2010 and conclude with the release of a joint Canada West Foundation-Calgary Chamber of Commerce policy paper (encompassing expert commentary from the series and strategic recommendations) at the final series event in November.

Who are the scheduled expert speakers?

Laura Lochman, Consul General of the United States for Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories

Topic: National U.S. Climate Change and Energy Policy – Where are we now, where are we going, and how will Canada be affected?

May 10, 2010 - Keynote Breakfast Event

Eric Newell, Chairman, Alberta Climate Change and Emissions Management Corporation

Topic: Developing clean energy to address Alberta's climate change challenges, and support Alberta's green economy and green jobs

June 14, 2010 - Keynote Luncheon Event



Jim Carter, Chairman, Alberta Carbon Capture and Storage Development Council

Topic: Carbon Capture and Storage: A Promising Technology for the Environment and the Economy

June 18, 2010 (To be confirmed) - Keynote Luncheon Panel

Roger Gibbins, President & CEO of the Canada West Foundation

Topic: Evolution of a Canadian Energy Framework: Policy Development in the Face of Uncertainty

September 2010 - Keynote Luncheon Panel

T. Boone Pickens, Chairman of BP Capital

Topic: The Future of Energy, Energy Security and Canada's role in a North American Energy Strategy

September 22, 2010 - Keynote Luncheon Event

Panellists to be announced

Topic: Economic Implications of Climate Change Policy

October 2010 - Policy Roundtable Workshop

Canada West Foundation and the Calgary Chamber of Commerce

Topic: Conclusions and Recommendations for Changing the Climate in Canada

November 2010 - Panel Luncheon and Report Launch