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## Take Action

### Join the KYOTOplus Campaign for Climate Action Now!

September 2009

Sign the *Kyotoplus* petition for action on climate change by **November 2**, and participate in the **October 17–24** Week of Action Connecting Climate Justice and Global Poverty.

Sign the *KYOTOplus* petition urging the Canadian government to make a strong commitment to climate action at the UN Climate Conference in Copenhagen in December, and to invest in a green economy at home. Learn more about the connections between climate justice and global poverty with this year's KAIROS Week of Action resource.

### **Background**

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As Christians, we believe that climate change requires not just a quick technological fix, but rather a conversion of how we live our lives on this fragile planet. We are summoned as people of faith to view the earth as not simply a source of resource extraction and wealth generation, but as a community in which we live and move and have our being. We must work to ensure the repair of the world—making a

new global covenant—through our personal life changes and political action.

### **What is *Kyotoplus*?**

*Kyotoplus* is a national, broadly based petition campaign, endorsed by a coalition of Canadian environmental, labour, Indigenous, human rights, and faith-based groups. It calls for urgent federal government action on the climate change crisis. KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives, of which the United Church is a member, is coordinating church participation in this campaign.

### **Why is *Kyotoplus* necessary?**

In 1999, the Canadian government signed onto the Kyoto Protocol, an international agreement promising to cut back our greenhouse gas emissions to 6 percent below 1990 levels. The Kyoto Protocol's commitment period runs from 2008 to 2012.

Canada is now actually 26 percent above 1990 levels with no viable plan to meet its Kyoto commitment. The international community is coming together again this year from December 7 to 18 in Copenhagen to set out a post-Kyoto framework, which will begin in 2013. Canada needs to take on targets in Copenhagen to minimize the impacts of climate change on communities here and abroad to live up to its Kyoto obligations.

### **What is Canada's responsibility?**

Canada's responsibility is to demonstrate moral leadership in the face of this global climate crisis by

- setting a national target to cut greenhouse gas emissions at least 25 percent from 1990 levels by 2020
- implementing an effective national plan to reach this target

- accepting our historical responsibility for climate change by helping developing countries to reduce their emissions and adapt to climate change

The *KyotoPlus* petition is a way to get all Canadians to address climate change by demanding that the Canadian government does the right thing in Copenhagen. We hope to have at least one million signatures to impress on the Canadian government that the public is serious about tackling climate change both at home and abroad.

## **Take Action**

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- Add your name to the online [KyotoPlus petition](#)
- Download the [KYOTOplus petition](#) [PDF: 4 pp/994 KB], print it, collect signatures, and return it by November 2. Get others in your home, community, schools, and churches to sign it as well.
- Download and use the [Week of Action materials](#) [PDF: 4 pp/646 KB] to connect climate justice and global poverty October 17-24, with information, action ideas, and worship materials.
- Write to your Member of Parliament and the Members of Parliament listed below to say that you, as a member of The United Church of Canada, support the intent of the *KYOTOplus* petition. Say that you want Canada to invest in a green economy at home and make a strong international commitment in Copenhagen.

Please send your letters to:

Your MP: the [House of Commons](#) website has a complete list of MPs' fax and phone numbers. Surface mail letters can be sent to:  
House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6

- The Rt. Hon Steven Harper  
Office of the Prime Minister  
Fax: 613-941-6900  
E-mail: [The Rt. Hon Steven Harper](#)

- The Hon. Jim Prentice  
Minister of the Environment  
Fax: 613-947-9475  
E-mail: [The Hon. Jim Prentice](mailto:Jim.Prentice@ec.gc.ca)
- The Hon. Michael Ignatieff  
Liberal Party  
Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition  
Fax: 613-992-5880  
E-mail: [The Hon. Michael Ignatieff](mailto:Michael.Ignatieff@parliament.gc.ca)
- David McGuinty  
Liberal Environment Critic  
Fax: 613-995-1534  
E-mail: [David McGuinty](mailto:David.McGuinty@parliament.gc.ca)
- The Hon. Jack Layton  
Leader of the New Democratic Party  
Fax: 613-995-4565  
E-mail: [The Hon. Jack Layton](mailto:Jack.Layton@parliament.gc.ca)
- Linda Duncan  
NDP Environment Critic  
Fax: 613-995-5342  
E-mail: [Linda Duncan](mailto:Linda.Duncan@parliament.gc.ca)
- The Hon. Gilles Duceppe  
Leader of the Bloc Québécois  
Fax: 613-954-2121  
E-mail: [The Hon. Gilles Duceppe](mailto:Gilles.Duceppe@parliament.gc.ca)
- Bernard Bigras  
BQ Environment Critic  
Fax: 613-992-0878  
E-mail: [Bernard Bigras](mailto:Bernard.Bigras@parliament.gc.ca)

**Please send copies of your letters to:**

- Barbara Lloyd  
Program Coordinator, Public Witness  
Justice, Global and Ecumenical Relations Unit  
The United Church of Canada

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