

## MEDIA ADVISORY / Save the date!

### Canadian scholars receive wide backing to step up pressure on climate change

Launching: October 8, 2015, 10AM–12PM EDT, University of Toronto, Hart House Music Room

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**TORONTO**– In a collection of new texts, *Acting on Climate Change: Extending the Dialogue Among Canadians*, First Nations, business, NGOs, labour, youth and private citizens have formally responded to what’s been called Canada’s “Marshall Plan” for climate change<sup>1</sup>, a consensus paper released in March 2015 by Sustainable Canada Dialogues. The consensus paper, *Acting on Climate Change: Solutions from Canadian Scholars*, was written by scholars from every province in Canada proposing a national climate action plan. In just two months, 28 contributors responded to the scholars request for feedback, including their own climate policy proposals or visions.

Dr. Catherine Potvin from McGill University, who spearheads Sustainable Canada Dialogues, hopes that “the new collection of texts, *Acting on Climate Change: Extending the Dialogue Among Canadians*, could provide the seed for an inclusive, country-wide consultation on the best ways for Canada to transition toward a low-carbon, sustainable economy and society.”

The depth and breadth of responses shows that Canada is brimming with ideas, possibilities and the collective will to act on climate change. Key developments include 1) legitimate Indigenous Peoples’ voices, 2) deepened discussion on energy, and 3) broadened dialogue on topics such as finance and investment, labour transition, social acceptability and the future visions of different groups of Canadians.

“When Canadians head to the polls in October, we are deciding who will represent us at the 2015 Paris Climate Summit and the vision they have for Canada’s role in acting on climate change. *Extending the Dialogue Among Canadians* provides novel ideas that can inform the next federal government,” said Dr. Mark Stoddart, from Memorial University and one of 60 co-authors of Sustainable Canada’s Dialogues original climate action plan.

The October 8 launch of *Extending the Dialogue Among Canadians* will include a brief introduction to Sustainable Canada Dialogues, a panel presenting a subset of contributions related to First Nations, Energy, Labour and Climate Policy and a “call to action” from youth representatives. The event will conclude a “Solutions Fair” beginning at 11:35 AM with booths, posters - including amongst others an analysis of Federal parties’ platforms by Sustainable Canada Dialogues - and opportunities for interviews and photos.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.lapresse.ca/le-soleil/opinions/editoriaux/201504/02/01-4857963-un-plan-marshall-pour-le-canada.php>

Sustainable Canada Dialogues is a network of over 60 researchers across all Canadian provinces representing climate change and sustainability expertise ranging from engineering to sociology. The full collection of texts *Acting on Climate Change: Extending the Dialogue Among Canadians* will be available on October 8 at <http://www.sustainablecanadialogues.ca/en/scd/extendingthedialogue>

Find us on Twitter: @DialogSustainab [EN] and @DialoguesCanada [FR],  
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/mcgillatwork>

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## *Acting on Climate Change: Extending the Dialogue Among Canadians:*

### The 28 contributors

