

Decarbonize NL Prospectus and Sponsorship

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The Decarbonize NL Conference will be held at the Signal Hill Campus of Memorial University on July 11 and 12, 2019.

Hosts: *This conference is being hosted by the Newfoundland and Labrador Energy Action Research Network [NLEARN], in partnership with academics at Memorial University of Newfoundland. NLEARN is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to decarbonization and multi-sectoral partnerships throughout all economic sectors in Newfoundland and Labrador.*

Background

In October 2018, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a stark warning: to avoid catastrophic climate change, we must stop burning fossil fuels and emitting greenhouse gases.

The milestones are specific and daunting. By 2030, all of humankind must reduce the amount of primary energy derived from oil by 37% relative to 2010 to avoid the worst effects of climate change. Coal use must decrease 78% over that same time frame - and even natural gas, often touted as a 'bridge fuel', must drop by 25%. No jurisdiction is exempt from this responsibility, and none will be immune from the effects of climate breakdown if we fail to meet it.

The Need for a Local Decarbonization Conference

Newfoundland and Labrador has an economy that is largely dependent on oil and natural resources. In 2010, oil royalties accounted for over 30% of provincial revenue. Dramatic swings in volatile commodity prices create severe challenges for social programs and spending. Decarbonization - the process of decoupling human activity from the emission of greenhouse gases - will be a significant challenge, yet it's one that we must meet, both morally and practically. We cannot assume humanity will fail to decarbonize - and if that is true, then it follows that we cannot assume a robust market will exist for product that hastens climate breakdown.

The purpose of this event is to unleash the creativity, passion, ingenuity, and entrepreneurial spirit of Newfoundland and Labrador - to bring together enthusiastic members of academia, government, industry, Indigenous communities, non-profits, and the general public to outline what we can do, not just to meet or exceed the IPCC targets in NL, but also to build the prosperous, just, and sustainable economy that we all deserve.

*The purpose of this event is to determine **how** to decarbonize, not **whether** to decarbonize.* If your intent is to argue that this province should not aim to achieve IPCC projections, then this event is not for you. We will reserve the right to ask individuals to cede the discussion space if their opinions drift into climate skepticism or question the merits of action at all.

Fundraising

Our intent is to host ~40 expert panelists, and 100 delegates from the community. To cover costs of hosting this event, there will be a registration fee (fee schedule to be determined) and registration will open to the general public in early May.

We are seeking financial support for this event. The event will be held on a break-even basis, and any funds raised will directly go to reducing registration cost. We will have a progressive fee schedule, with low-income options available.

We will have three levels of sponsorship:

Bronze (\$500 - \$999)	Silver (\$1000 - \$1999)	Gold (\$2000 and up)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Includes two conference registrations - Sponsor logo to be featured on conference website - Sponsor will be thanked at start of conference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Includes all of Bronze AND: - Two additional conference registrations (i.e. 4 total) - Sponsor logo printed on event banner on site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Includes all of Silver AND: - Four additional conference registrations (i.e. 8 total) - 8 registrations for wind farm fieldtrip - Sponsor logo printed on back of conference name-badges

Prospective sponsors should contact Dr. Brett Favaro (brett.favaro@mi.mun.ca) and payment and registration will be collected by Memorial University staff.