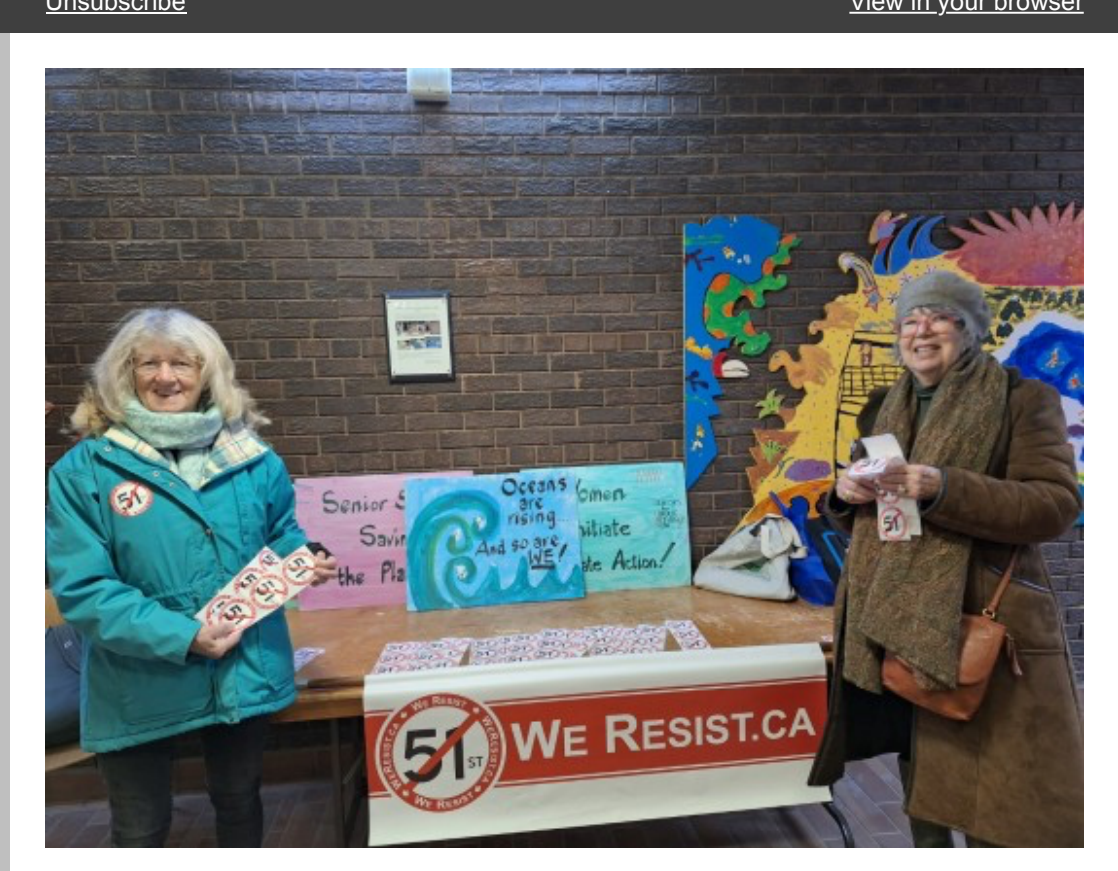


So many ways to resist

(Pictured above, friends handing out stickers at International Women's Day in Toronto and featuring SCAN!'s placards.)

We are living in terrible and turbulent times. In Ontario, Ford, the ultimate climate change denier and promoter of oil and gas, set himself up as Captain Canada and won his snap winter election. Trump continues to jerk us around with on again off again tariffs. His threat to our economic and national sovereignty is real. Canadians are scared and angry.

SCAN! and allied climate organizations must dig in our heels and keep the dream of massive renewable energy alive. Provincial and federal politicians are equally determined to expand oil and gas as their solution to Trump's threats. We are in the middle of a federal election, fighting hard to get our climate message across. All of our chapters are engaged in this fight.

Here is the election page on our website. You will find several resources you can use during this campaign.

At the same time, we are preparing for the spring mobilization of Seniors for Climate. We are using our power as seniors to energize the movement and move to renewable energy for a healthier planet. We are mobilizing for the Canada We Want.

Elbows up!

A loss

Shirley Moore, a SCAN! member has passed. Her husband, Terry, well known to SCAN! for his contributions to research and analysis, describes Shirley as "a force of nature who will be sorely missed by all she crossed paths with". Shirley's photo has joined other mourned members on the In Memoriam page.

SCAN! signed on

To a letter from Liz Benneian, Chair, Biodiversity and Climate Action Niagara, addressed to the Premier of Ontario.

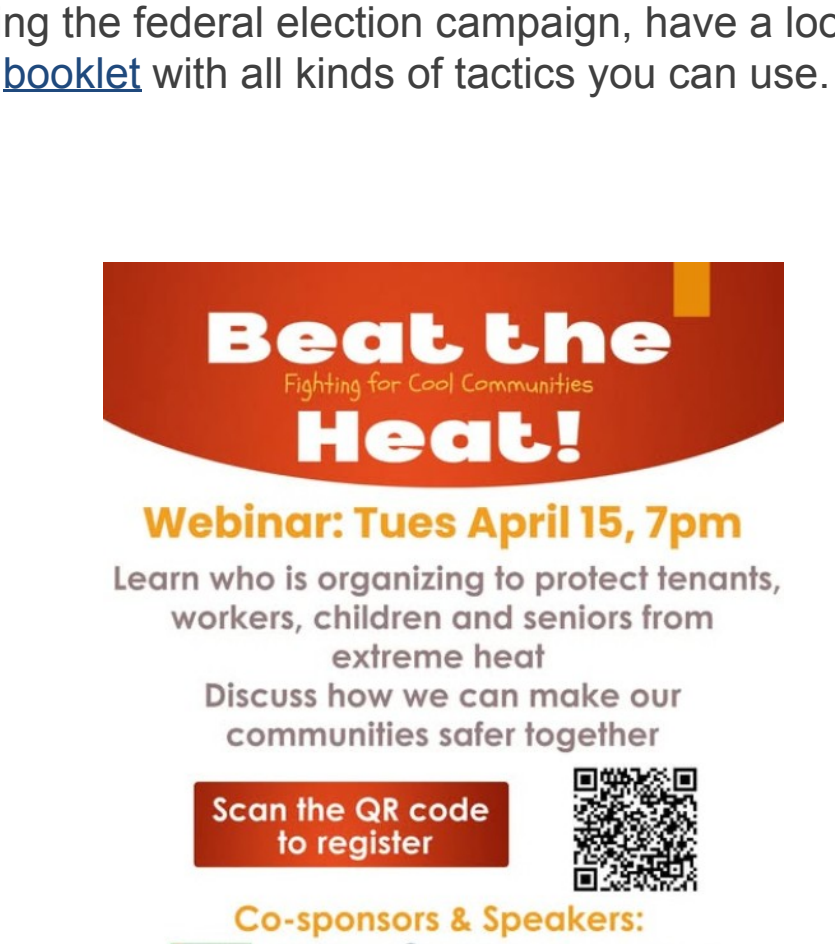
The conclusion:

…especially in light of the new challenges posed by the Trump administration, we are asking the government of Ontario to do three things that will increase Ontario's energy independence, produce cleaner and lower cost energy, generate less pollution and greenhouse gases, attract investment in our clean energy economy and create the jobs of the future:

1. Ramp up green energy and energy storage projects;
2. Change the building code, repeal Bill 165 and employ green energy heating and cooling systems for new buildings and developments and;
3. Put the appropriate and equitable incentives in place to encourage the conversion of existing homes from electric and gas furnaces to heat pumps.

Tactics toolkit

During the federal election campaign, have a look at this booklet with all kinds of tactics you can use.


Beat the Heat!
Fighting for Cool Communities
Webinar: Tues April 15, 7pm
Learn who is organizing to protect tenants, workers, children and seniors from extreme heat
Discuss how we can make our communities safer together
Scan the QR code to register
Co-sponsors & Speakers:
crew
Canadian Environmental Law Association
ONTARIO FEDERATION OF LABOUR

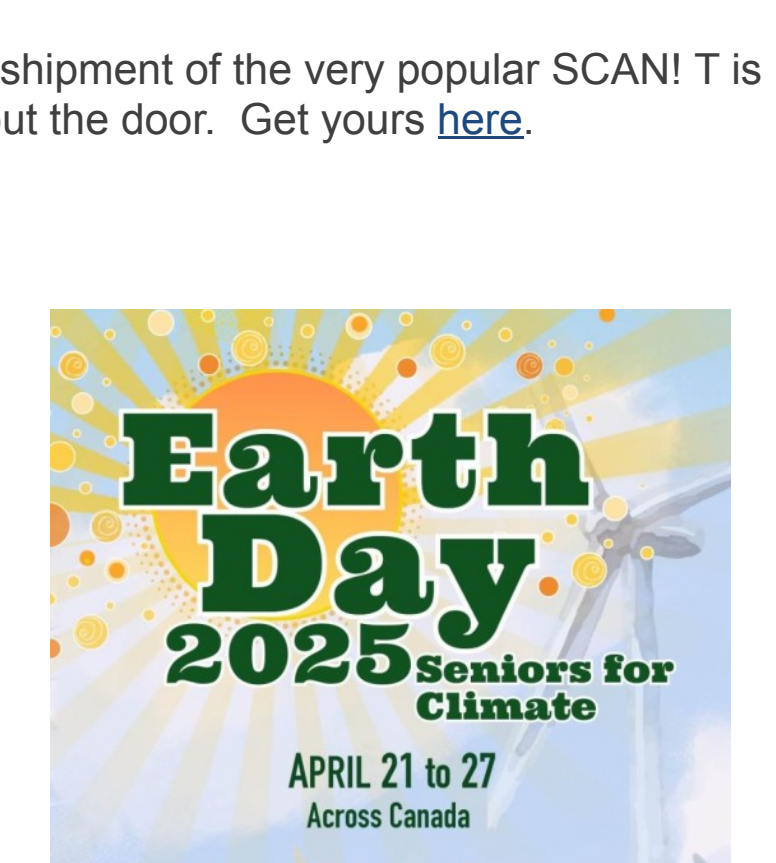
April 15

Register here.

SENIORS FOR CLIMATE ACTION NOW!

SCAN! Ts stand out in a crowd

A new shipment of the very popular SCAN! T is ready to go out the door. Get yours here.



Seniors For Climate

They have updated their website to reflect the federal election and spring mobilization. Read about the events chapters are planning below along with their other exciting work.

Chapters. Chapters. Chapters.

There are so many innovative ideas about doing local work. Read on.

Brant, Hamilton, Niagara, Norfolk (BHNN)

They are discussing joining another group such as Hamilton 350 for an Earth Week event. They are also considering setting up social media accounts to share information among local climate activists. For the federal election they want to send letters to the editor, use social media and attend local candidate debates. Moving forward, they want to initiate a Climate Change and Health session based on a CAPE presentation.

On May 3, they will show "Later is Too Late" at the First Unitarian Church in Hamilton. They plan to have a table to gather names for a mailing list and will invite other climate groups to set up tables for post-film engagement.

Edmonton

Their Coordinating Committee took Climate Fresk (climate communication training) in March. Their education committee welcomed an OXFAM presentation: Takers Not Makers and discussed the federal election.

The Networking Committee is working together with For Our Kids on Fossil Fuel Companies' Funding and Supplying Misleading Climate Education to Canadian Schools report.

Tylene Appell was interviewed about the report on CBC and again here.

She also did podcast interviews with the Climate Lens and The Gravity Well.

They worked with their local Youth Climate Corps on a YYC Town hall in Edmonton.

Regarding Indigenous Climate Action, the SCAN! Edmonton Reading Club reviewed their tool kit

They attended an in-person special public presentation at City Hall of the 2025 Edmonton Transit Annual Service Plan and connected with Edmonton Transit Riders.

They tabled at a Sowing Seeds for Change Event.

Their Actions Committee is planning the Seniors for Climate Spring Event which will take place April 26 at the Alberta Avenue Community League. Partnering with them, the Council of Canadians Edmonton.

They will have an Indigenous Ceremony, speakers from New Grocery Movement, Edmonton Youth for Climate, Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE), Keepers of the Water, Alberta Environmental Network, Edmonton Coalition on Housing and Homelessness (ECOHH), Climate Justice Edmonton and an Edmonton City Council rep. The Raging Grannies will perform.

They also plan fun family activities, crafts, games and tabling by Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS), City of Edmonton Urban Forestry, Common Horizon/Edmonton Youth for Climate, Edmonton Transit Riders, For Our Kids Alberta, SNAP - Society of Northern Alberta Print-Artists, Touch Grass Club & Edmonton Native Plant Society & Arnica Wildflowers, Edmonton Coalition on Housing and Homelessness (ECOHH) and Young Indigenous Women's Circle of Leadership

And that's not all.

Interactive green technology displays and tabling, live keyboard and fiddle music by Council of Canadians, Vegan hotdog roast and tabling and food vendors, film screenings (including Later is Too Late) and lastly, talking with local politicians.

[*I'm out of breath just reading this - ed*]

Guelph

Guelph's fight with Enbridge was featured in the National Observer.

In addition to their regular monthly meeting, they held a "Move Your Assets" workshop at Meridian Bank with 12 members attending. Meridian was thrilled to have them. They answered lots of questions about what is involved in moving assets from one financial institution to another, but also about their commitment to values based investing.

SCAN! Guelph presented at Third Age Learning as part of a panel on energy. They talked about SCAN!, their priorities and projects, and why they are important.

For Earth Day, they are planning another workshop: "Insulate Your Wallet" at the local Seniors Association Centre. They will explain home efficiency renovations and improvements - and associated grants and loans to support them. The Centre has 2300 members. They also plan to show part of Later is Too Late and build on this first joint venture.

They are also looking for venues and opportunities to screen the entire film.

Meeting with their climate action network and our social justice coalition, they hope to prepare a united front for Earth Week with a series of events in Guelph that will be marketed together.

Their Beat the Heat postcards are ready to be printed and distributed. Community groups are eager to distribute them.

They presented to the executive of the Retired Teachers of Ontario District 13.and were well received. They will do a feature about SCAN! in their newsletter.

Barrie

Twenty-two students from the Global perspectives Class at Innisdale High School have completed surveying their families on climate knowledge and compiled the data. They found that about 20 % of the people in their survey do not see climate change as a pressing problem. Since then, the students came up with five proposals on how to increase the climate conversation level/or how to increase the conversations around climate issues, especially between generations.

They are hoping to show Later is Too Late at one of Their Seniors' Condo Buildings during Earth Week.

They gave a talk on climate change to the CN Pensioners' Association, at their request.

They have also contacted CARP about the possibility of showing Later is Too Late at one of their spring meetings.

London

During the Ontario election, SCAN! London served as an intermediary to get information distributed; getting out the vote without being tied to any particular party. They pushed candidates to talk about climate; and connected climate to social justice issues. There was a lot of interaction at all-candidates' meetings. They asked pointed questions and strengthened ties with several justice groups.

Members of the chapter attended a day-long seminar on Election Readiness at the LD Labour Council. They plan to present at the monthly LD Labour Council meeting, showing the Later is Too Late trailer and discussing both SCAN! and Seniors for Climate plans.

In terms of Seniors for Climate, they have finalized a contract with the Unitarian Fellowship for their Oct. 4th SFC event. They worked with Nancy Nicol on gaining insights into how to get the film into the hands of cable companies and interested groups, as well as film festivals. One member taped a segment on Rogers TV, *What's Up London*.

Regarding the spring mobilization, the film will be screened on Earth Day downtown in the Innovation Works space, part of Pillar Non-Profit network. They are working on a grant from the City of London to organize a schedule of viewings.

Members attended meetings with the provincial organizer of Youth Climate Corp. They are well on their way to forming a London YCC. They are working with a 15-year-old organizer, an exceptional climate activist. They will partner with YCC at an EarthFest table table.

Kingston

Later is Too Late, had its premiere, followed by a panel discussion. The plan was to use the event to do outreach, building Earth Day and election work.

Cogeco Yourtv Kingston broadcast the film and interviewed director, Nancy Nicol. The film is being programmed by Rogers, Cogeco and CHCO – confirmed so far are New Brunswick, London and Kingston Ontario, and two stations on Vancouver Island. It is being sent out to Rogers stations nationwide.

They are planning two Earth Day 2025 events, on April 26 and 27 as well as working with schools through the week. The Kingston Native Centre and Language Nest are on board to partner this year. Members from the centre have been actively involved with organizing. Sustainable Kingston will also participate. Outreach is under way to groups and organizations to participate with booths and activities as well as a call out for vendors. Work is ongoing to contact several schools to support Earth Day/Week activities. They may be able to visit schools to give students opportunity to get creative with Earth Day themes. Potential activities: puppet making, jewelry making, sketch books, daily journals and note books.

They are inviting churches to ring their bells on Tuesday, April 22 at noon, in honour of Earth Day. The theme: celebrate the beauty of the earth and "give thanks to God for his glorious creation". They may also ask them to reflect on what actions they might take to fight climate change individually and in community with others.

Regarding the federal election, they have been discussing their election plans following their efforts in the provincial election. They did door to door canvassing for the first time and found it worthwhile.

Ottawa

They held a sneak preview of Later is Too Late, accompanied by a chili lunch and a number of community-building activities at a Kanata community centre. That was a promo for a late March event and for their Earth Day action. The plan is to sign up volunteers and promote the Flash Mob.

They also participated with GASP and the Citizens Climate Lobby in a "Baby Carriage" demonstration at Parliament Hill. The Flash Dance Mob performed. Sign-making for this event was part of the chili luncheon mentioned above.

For Seniors For Climate Earth Day they are organizing an event on April 23, "Our Power Our Planet: Working Together for the Next Generations". They are working with the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg - Nagadjitòdjig Aki Land Guardians at Knox Presbyterian Church. The Guardians will talk about their work and how it could inform urban Ottawa. There will also be musical performances. Their environmental allies will table at the lunch-time event, and the Flash Mob will perform outside.

Also for Earth Day, there is an outdoor Eco-Fair being planned by Centretown Community Health on April 26. They will table there.

They were active in the Ontario election campaign and attended a community forum on Public Transportation organized by Transit Riders of Ottawa where they leafletted.

Their monthly newsletter continues to be a hit with their members and friends.

They are ensuring that that messaging on the federal election is central to the work they are doing, and will do what they can to make sure that climate chaos and its impacts on health, affordability, insurance and so on become part of the political discourse.

Kawartha

SCAN! Kawartha has been working on a Go bus for regional transit. They met with the mayor to lobby for an update and to lobby for a concerted municipal effort to get Go Bus Service for the community. They are promoting a local Facebook group, urging that Go Bus service be extended to their area. They have also been working on the possibility of holding a public meeting to generate more support for Go Bus service in the Kawartha lakes.

For Earth Day, they are developing details to coordinate with the overall effort.

Enbridge is expanding in their area. SCAN! Kawartha has been actively lobbying against this expansion – the local council, flyers and door to door canvassing. They also held public meetings. They are using the media to educate people on the issue. They plan to get heat pump users to write testimonials on the effectiveness of heat pumps and have them published.

Toronto

Toronto members put a good deal of time into the Ontario election, distributing some 2,000 leaflets. The push is on to organize for the spring mobilization of Seniors for Climate. They are planning an event that is colorful, attractive, interactive, festive and galvanizing. Under the theme "For the Necessities of Life", they want to bring people together under "one big tent" so that social justice groups can talk with each other as well as participants at the event: how climate is related to their main concerns.

The complement to these tabling discussions is a rally where speakers will focus on aspects of what we need: an hospitable atmosphere with clean air and water, access to food, housing and work, Indigenous rights and justice for equity seeking groups.

Running through the event is the call to action: "We demand the necessities of life for all in a livable planet."

Please amplify

We would like SCAN! members to help amplify our social media posts. This is an important action. It prevents posts from being pushed out of users' sight by algorithms that rely primarily on user engagement and interaction. All climate action groups need help to actively promote credible climate news for the sake of public interest. One of the main ways to influence others is by using social media. These platforms create an open space to reach more people across the globe. They also help spread contacts with other activist groups, politicians, and, academics. The goal is to reinforce the need for climate action, fight misinformation, and highlight calls for specific measures and policies.

Your participation can help create viral content that will catch the attention of decision makers and counter the anti-climate action backlash. Fueling that backlash is paid advertising by the wealthy and powerful fossil fuel industry.

So please **share** posts that you see on the platforms we use.

Because of restrictions imposed by Facebook on publishing Canadian news, we are publishing the main issues of articles and referring people to the source material as well as Bluesky.

Follow us on Bluesky **@seniorsfcan.bluesky.social**

Despite restrictions, we are doing our best to help people keep up to date.

Readers of this newsletter who are not yet members are welcome to join as members any time. Go to the web site and click on "Become a member". Questions? email us: info@seniorsforclimateactionnow.org