SP | Sustainable Prosperity

SP HIGHLIGHTS 2012

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I came to Sustainable Prosperity six months ago because I believe that Canada can have an economy that is both globally competitive and environmentally sustainable. By using policies that engage the market, Canada can both grow its economy and lower its environmental footprint.

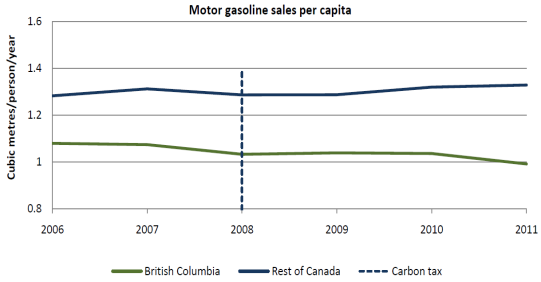
This past year, Sustainable Prosperity has demonstrated through research, policy publications, communications and events - such as those highlighted in this newsletter - that this is not only a desirable but an achievable ambition. We found that the BC carbon tax shift significantly lowered greenhouse gas emissions while lowering its personal and corporate tax rates and not damaging its economy; yet use of carbon taxes is still the exception rather than the rule. We found that environmental markets are worth over half a billion dollars in Canada - a significant amount but far smaller than our global peers. We showed how municipalities can use market-based tools to realize economic, employment and environmental benefits. We showed how green bonds can be a powerful tool in financing the transition to a greener economy.

We are making progress, but for Canada to become a green economic leader, and grow our economy and lower our environmental footprint, we need to go much further. Sustainable Prosperity has a key role in this and I am very proud to be leading the team and am looking forward to a productive 2013.

LOW CARBON ECONOMY

REPORT: BRITISH COLUMBIA'S CARBON TAX SHIFT: THE FIRST FOUR YEARS

British Columbia's carbon tax is working; fuel use and GHG emissions in the province have dropped substantially since the tax's introduction in 2008. SP will continue to provide analysis on the economic impacts of the tax and the lessons learned for other jurisdictions.



EVENT: BC's CARBON TAX SHIFT: IS IT WORKING AND WHATS NEXT?

SP and Carbon Talks co-hosted this event which had four expert panelists were be on hand to deliver their perspectives on BC's carbon tax.

Stewart Elgie
Director, Institute of the Environment, uOttawa
Chair, Sustainable Prosperity

Mikael Skou Andersen
European Environment Agency, Denmark

Nicholas Rivers
School of Public and International Affairs, uOttawa
Canadian Research Chair, Climate and Energy Policy

James Mack
Head, Climate Action Secretariat, British Columbia

MEDIA:

FP financialpost.com

4 KEY REASONS WHY BC'S CARBON TAX IS WORKING

JULY 5, 2012

The Washington Post

HOW WOULD A CARBON TAX WORK? LET'S ASK BRITISH COLUMBIA.

September19, 2012

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES MARKETS

REPORT: ENVIRONMENTAL MARKETS 2012

Canada has 57 environmental (air, water and habitat) markets worth close to half a billion dollars a year. In 2013, SP will update its survey of environmental markets in Canada, and will focus on how to scale up water and habitat markets.

FULL REPORT CAN BE READ HERE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FOR POLICY MAKERS CAN BE READ HERE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FOR THE FINANCIAL SECTOR CAN BE READ HERE

EVENT: ENVIRONMENTAL MARKETS IN CANADA 2012

Elisabeth DeMarco
Partner, Norton Rose Canada

Jeff King
Managing Director, Environmental Markets, Scotiabank

Katie Sullivan
Director, North American Policy & Climate Finance, International Emissions Trading Association (IETA)

Stefan Reichenbach
Global Head of Strategy, Marketing & Growth Initiatives, Commodities, Thomson Reuters

Alex Wood
Senior Director, Policy & Markets, Sustainable Prosperity

WATCH THE VIDEO FROM THIS EVENT HERE

MEDIA:

BNN BUSINESS NEWS NETWORK

ALEX WOOD ON ENVIRONMENTAL MARKETS
RICARDO BAYON ON ENVIRONMENTAL MARKETS
TREVOR SIKORSKI ON ENVIRONMENTAL MARKETS

December 18, 2012

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

CANADA COULD BENEFIT FROM BIGGER 'ENVIRONMENTAL MARKETS': STUDY

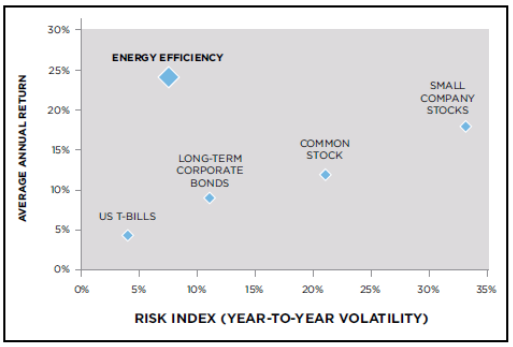
November 17, 2012

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

REPORT: BUILDING CANADA'S GREEN ECONOMY: THE MUNICIPAL ROLE

Municipalities are on the front line of the green economy in Canada. SP's municipal work in 2013 will continue to highlight the policy solutions that can reduce the environmental impact of citizens' daily choices.

ENERGY-EFFICIENCY INVESTMENTS: HIGH RETURN, LOW RISK



READ THE REPORT HERE

EVENT: FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES (FCM) SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE 2012 PLENARY: BUILDING A GREEN ECONOMY FOR CANADA

The report was released at the FCM conference by David Thompson, SP's Director of Sustainable Communities, and co-author of the report.

MORE ABOUT THE EVENT HERE

MEDIA:

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

CITIES MUST COPE WITH GROWING GLOBAL URBANIZATION

March 12, 2012

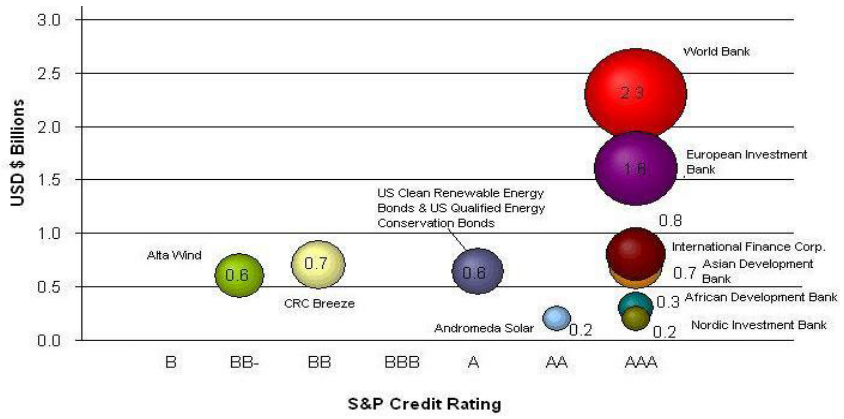
"The green economy demands our attention as we are reaching a critical and pivotal time - how far that balance goes will depend on the global market and its appetite for Canada's raw materials, as much as on national and provincial priorities, choices and treaties here."

SUZANNE GODBEHERE

HEAD, ASSOCIATION OF CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS CANADA

ECONOMY-WIDE AND EMERGING ISSUES

REPORT: **GREEN BONDS**



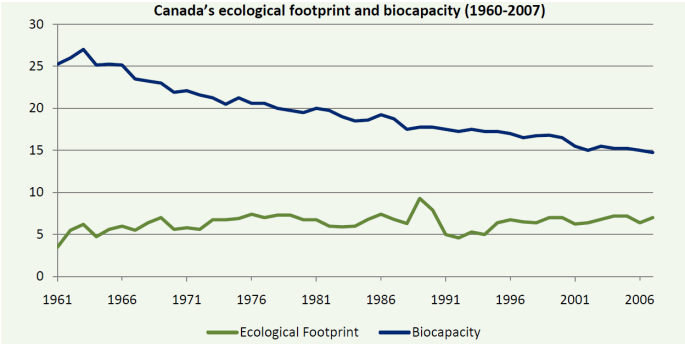
In 2012, USD $6.5 Billion in debt issued to-date in Canada could be categorized as climate-themed bonds. In 2013, SP will publish an update of the Canadian green bonds market in partnership with The Climate Bonds Initiative.

READ REPORT HERE

REPORT: **SP WHITE PAPER: TOWARDS A GREEN ECONOMY**

Canada, like all developed countries, has a long way to go before its economy could be considered truly green. SP is continuing its work on greening the Canadian economy in 2013 by working closely with partners who are actively engaged on this issue.

READ THE REPORT HERE



Source: Global Footprint Network, 2010. *Country Trends: Canada*, http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/trends/canada/

BUILDING ON RIO+ 20: CANADA's ROLE AND PRIORITIES IN A GLOBAL GREEN ECONOMY

EVENT:

This two day conference examined Canada's role in a global green economy by:

- Taking stock of Canada's efforts to build a low carbon, green economy as an essential strategy for sustainable development on a global basis.
- Providing a cross-cutting view of the policy, economic and governance challenges faced by Canada and other nations, in the context of Rio +20.
- Identifying leading practices and solutions as well as challenges in transitioning to a green economy.

LINK TO FULL VIDEOS OF THE SESSION
LINK TO LIST OF SPEAKERS & BIOS

MEDIA:

CHAREST HOPES CANADA SHOWS SOME LEADERSHIP AT THE UPCOMING RIO + 20 EARTH SUMMIT TO BE HELD IN BRAZIL

May 01, 2012

TORIES ACCUSED OF BEING 'ONE OF MOST ANTI-ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNMENTS IN THE WORLD'

May 07, 2012

SP BLOG

SP has been blogging since 2011 on a variety of topics, including the green economy, environmental markets, carbon capture and storage, and carbon pricing. In 2013, SP will feature a new roster of bloggers, including **Mike Wilson**, **Nic Rivers**, **Brandon Schaufele**, **Alex Wood**, **Dana Krechowicz** and guests. Don't forget to sign up to the blog RSS Feed to stay updated on SP's latest thinking on environment and economy issues.

SIGN UP TO OUR RSS FEED.