

Sustainability Matters

Compiled and published by Ray Skinner, FCA

Business achieving a tomorrow for tomorrow's children



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Zero Carbon Bill Passes with Almost Unanimous Support in Parliament

"The Zero Carbon bill has passed with the support of almost the whole Parliament, after National leader Simon Bridges confirmed his party's support for it.

"Compromise shouldn't be a dirty word in politics', he said before announcing to Parliament and the bill's sponsor, Climate Change Minister James Shaw, that National would support it to applause across the House.

"Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern thanked National for supporting the bill but took issue with the view that New Zealand should be a fast follower on climate change, rather than a leader.

"I will not allow this country to be a fast follower because we damage our country, our environment and our exporters if we allow that to happen.'

"The passage of the bill was not in doubt but it had been Shaw's driving ambition to gain bipartisan support in order to stop climate change policy being used as 'a political football'.

"Some things are too big for politics and the biggest of them all is climate change', Shaw said.

"The aim of the bill was to elevate climate change policy beyond petty politics and bipartisanship.

"Almost no progress had been made on it in 30 years.

"Many MPs praised former Green MP Kennedy Graham for the role he had played in developing a cross-party group on climate change in the previous Parliament. He was in the House for the bill's passage.

"Act is the only party in the 120-seat Parliament to oppose the bill. All others, Labour, the Greens, New Zealand First and National supported it.

"Climate-change policy has been a political football, kicked up and down the field and frequently into touch by changes of Government and, in fact, changes within Governments.'

More:

www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=12283372 plus www.beehive.govt.nz/release/historic-day-landmark-climate-change-legislation-new-zealand and www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PA1911/S00059/nationals-support-for-flawed-zero-carbon-bill-disappointing.htm

Source: Various, 7th November 2019. 

Heat, Greed and Human Need: Climate Change, Capitalism and Sustainable Wellbeing

"This book builds an essential bridge between climate change and social policy. Combining ethics and human need theory with political economy and climate science, it offers a long-term, interdisciplinary analysis of the prospects for sustainable development and social justice. Beyond 'green growth' (which assumes an unprecedented rise in the emissions efficiency of production) it envisages two further policy stages vital for rich countries: a progressive 'recomposition' of consumption, and a post-growth ceiling on demand. An essential resource for scholars and policymakers.

More: www.opendemocracy.net/en/oureconomy/book-review-heat-greed-and-human-need/ plus www.elgar.com/shop/heat-greed-and-human-need 264 pages, October 2017.

Source: Robert Howell, 10th November 2019. 

Consultation Opens on Kiwi Businesses Assessing and Reporting Their Climate-Related Financial Risks

"Minister for Climate Change James Shaw today announced the start of public consultation on a new regime that would require companies to assess and report their climate-related financial risks.

"This is an important component of the Government's Climate Action Plan, and will ensure that companies understand and disclose how climate change will impact both their business and investments.

"A range of organisations, including the Insurance Council of New Zealand, Z Energy and Meridian Energy have suggested a mandatory regime is needed to ensure consistent, long-term and comparable reporting of climate risk.

"Climate change not only presents physical risks to Aotearoa New Zealand, but increasingly presents financial risks to a large number of our businesses', said James Shaw.

"The ability for businesses to understand these risks and therefore act upon them will assist New Zealand's long-term transition to a low-emissions country.'

"The discussion document sets out a proposed mandatory regime, the purpose of which is to ensure that material risks and opportunities are routinely considered in business and investment decisions.

"The proposals would see companies providing climate change information in addition to financial statements and other information already included in annual reports, to help users make more informed decisions. ...

"The proposed regime would follow the recommended framework of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), which is widely acknowledged as international best practice. Many other countries including Australia, Canada, UK, France, Japan, and the European Union, are all working to implement the framework.

Submissions close: Friday 13th December

More: www.beehive.govt.nz/release/consultation-opens-kiwi-businesses-assessing-and-reporting-their-climate-related-financial plus www.mfe.govt.nz/consultations/climate-related-financial-disclosures and www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/Climate%20Change/Climate-related-financial-disclosures-discussion-document.pdf 73 pages 2.05Mb 

Source: Tieke: *ECO Alerts & Events*, 6th Nov. 2019.

Sorcha Carr's Speech to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)

"A high school student has taken over what was meant to be a speech delivered by Greenpeace head Russel Norman at an Environmental Protection Authority conference today [31st October] Norman had been invited by the EPA to speak at the private event, but in a surprise twist handed the microphone to Wellington high school student and climate activist Sorcha Carr.... She did not mince words

More: www.greenpeace.org/new-zealand/press-release/youve-failed-us-student-takes-over-russel-normans-speech/

Source: Greenpeace, 1st November 2019. 

Enviro-Mark Solutions Ltd Rebrands to 'Toitū Envirocare'

"Marking a significant milestone in its growth, New Zealand's leading environmental certification provider, Enviro-Mark Solutions, [as from 7th November] is embracing its new identity as Toitū Envirocare.



"The new organisation name and refreshed brand identity signals Toitū Envirocare's commitment to inspiring New Zealand organisations to step up their efforts to reduce their environmental impact, and contribute to meeting our collective carbon emission reduction targets.

"Dr Ann Smith, Toitū Envirocare Chief Executive, says: 'Our new brand positions our company to achieve maximum impact for New Zealand. It reflects the evolution in our services from carbon measurement and offsetting, to helping businesses to transition to a sustainable low carbon economy.'

"Toitū is translated as 'to actively sustain' and was inspired by the whakatauki (proverb) toitū te whenua, toitū te mana, toitū te mauri ora (hold fast to our land, hold fast to our pride, hold fast to all living things).

"It contains within it the concept of accountability, and connecting individual actions to collective outcomes.

"The new brand identity and streamlined brand architecture will deliver significant improvements for Toitū Envirocare and its member family, including:

- A cohesive identity across the Toitū Envirocare logo and certification marks, resulting in greater brand market presence and stronger brand recall
- A more obvious link with Toitū Envirocare's parent company, Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research and their shared focus on regeneration and biodiversity ...

"The establishment of Toitū Envirocare takes our certification services from best practice in carbon reporting and environmental management to a new level aligned with the principles of the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals with a stronger and more accessible narrative, we intend to help even more New Zealand businesses achieve their sustainability ambitions.'

More: www.toitu.co.nz/news-and-events/news/inspiring-action/enviro-mark-solutions-is-now-called-toitu-envirocare plus www.toitu.co.nz/about-us/brand

Source: Toitū Envirocare, 7th November 2019.

Gen Less Campaign by EECA

"Gen Less' is a new campaign of EECA aimed at bringing communities, businesses and people together to address climate change by being clean and clever with energy use.

"The campaign intends to unite people by their intent to take meaningful, ongoing action to reduce emissions from energy use.

"EECA's research shows 83% of New Zealanders know about the importance of climate change but more than half of us don't know what to do to make a difference.

"With those findings in mind, EECA has developed a new campaign which brings together all sectors of society to get more out of life by using less energy. ...

"Since launching they've already had over 65,000 visits to the Gen Less website.

"On the journey EECA will be sharing lots of ways lifestyle changes combined can make a big difference to our greenhouse gas emissions and help achieve our commitments under the Paris Agreement on climate change.

More: <https://genless.govt.nz/>

Source: EECA, 8th November 2019.

Climate Liability News

"Climate Liability News is a [U.S.A] not-for-profit news site dedicated to reporting on the issues at the intersection of climate change impacts and law. Those issues include government and corporate responsibility and accountability for global warming and its consequences across society and around the world. Through hard-nosed, uncompromising journalism, we seek to advance a greater understanding and wider public discussion of the role of the law in addressing the wide-ranging impacts of climate change.

"Climate Liability News seeks to deepen the public's understanding of the issue of climate change and how its impacts are being dealt with by the legal system in the United States and around the world.

More: <https://www.climateliabilitynews.org/about-us/>

Launched: July 2017;

www.climateliabilitynews.org/2017/07/13/news-site-dedicated-to-climate-and-law-launches/

'Our mission is to inform the public and explain the legal issues and approaches being explored to address accountability and responsibility for the enormous costs of climate change.'

Source: Editor, 8th November 2019.

Focusing Aotearoa New Zealand's Environmental Reporting System

"This report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment is a detailed review of how well Aotearoa New Zealand reports on the state of its environment.

"The Commissioner has found huge gaps in data and knowledge undermine our stewardship of the environment, and recommends concerted action and serious investment to improve the system.

"Data gaps, along with inconsistent data collection and analysis, make it hard to construct a clear national picture of the state of our environment – and whether it is getting better or worse.

"The Commissioner has a statutory role to comment on the reports produced under the Environmental Reporting Act, and the completion of the first full cycle of reports in April 2019 provided a timely opportunity to review the entire system.

"*Focusing Aotearoa New Zealand's environmental reporting system* critiques the approach to reporting set up under the Environmental Reporting Act 2015, and outlines steps the Government needs to take to improve the system.

"The Commissioner recommends:

- Amending the Environmental Reporting Act 2015
- Adjusting the roles of the Government Statistician and the Secretary for the Environment
- Developing a comprehensive, nationally coordinated environmental monitoring system
- Developing a mandated strategy to prioritise and incrementally fill data gaps
- Determining the investment required to deliver the recommended improvements.

More: www.pce.parliament.nz/publications/focusing-aotearoa-new-zealand-s-environmental-reporting-system 106 pages 7.25Mb

Source: TV1 News, 7th November 2019.

U.S. Gas Station Ditches Oil for 100% EV Charging

The first gas station in the U.S. that has been completely transitioned from a petroleum station to exclusively charging EVs has opened in Maryland.

More: www.fastcompany.com/90410452/this-gas-station-is-the-first-in-the-u-s-to-convert-to-all-electric-vehicle-chargers

Source: ChargeSmart, 5th November 2019.

Accounting for Sustainability

"Sustainability needs to be measured, reported and evaluated – areas of expertise that fall naturally under an accountant's remit. However, ESG reporting is tougher than simply measuring how much money a business has made or lost, and is no longer just for the ethically engaged, having become commonplace in mainstream investment practice.

"Richard Spencer, ICAEW's Head of Sustainability says: 'As businesses begin to focus more on their impact on society and the environment, chartered accountants can expect to be involved in a wider range of activities which require additional training, such as embedding a company's impacts and dependencies on nature or society into its mainstream decision-making, testing the rigour of the data necessary to do that and providing insight on it.'

"According to the Governance and Accountability Institute, ESG reporting has increased by more than 4 times since 2011 among S&P 500 companies, and as global interest grows there have been calls for more uniform metrics. ESG reporting provides more accountability, enhances legitimacy, increases profitability and improves governance, and as climate change affects all markets and presents risks that shareholders can no longer ignore, investors are demanding answers about ESG fundamentals in the investment process.

"Responding to demands for a more consistent approach, there are numerous guiding principles available for businesses, including one from the London Stock Exchange Group. Furthermore, the TCFD Implementation Guide published by the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board and the Climate Disclosure Standards Board, aims to help accountants convert ESG issues from principle to practice. However, additional training is needed, and the ICAEW is already incorporating specific modules into their programme.

"The ACA syllabus now includes a number of key areas, including Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), the Natural Capital Protocol and associated supplements and guide, as well as Sustainable Development Goals. We've also recently signed the Green Finance Charter, which commits us to building green finance into the qualification. The frameworks produced by The Prince's Accounting for Sustainability Project on social, human and natural capital, which are all heavily based on the Protocol, are also in the syllabus" says Spencer. ...

"The accounting profession must act responsibly towards society and the environment. Accountants need to develop skills to incorporate the Environmental Social and Governance (ESG) considerations into decision-making. However, this can only happen if they are able to recognize the risks and opportunities associated with sustainability and are equipped to act on them. At A4S, we are aiming to inspire finance and accounting professionals and provide them with practical ways to respond to these challenges. Guidance, tools and practical examples which support these aims can be found in our Essential Guide series', says Helen Slinger, Executive Director, A4S.

"Accountants have the transferable expertise and can adapt their existing skillset to help businesses satisfy investor concerns and deal with ESG issues in the following ways: ...

More: www.accountancyage.com/2019/09/03/accounting-for-sustainability/

Source: CSEAR, 9th November 2019. 

Dear GRETA, GRETA, GRETA....

"3,000 throats screamed their adoration for the 16-year old girl who stood before them in Denver's Civic Center Park, blaming adults for the global climate crisis.

"In September, 250,000 voices shouted similar praise at the climate strike in New York. Around the world at 6 million people, many of them children, cut school, left work, marched, rallied to join this young woman, whose lonely courage has ignited a global crusade of Fridays for a Future.

"My first climate paper was in 1975, my first book on it was '81. My hat bears the pin from Kyoto, and another from the Paris. Many of my fellow climate activists, scientists, and funders are annoyed that a child is getting the attention that they never achieved.

"I'm grinning. Go Greta. We've failed. However hard we worked, and many of us have spent our lives on this cause, we did not stem the onset of the climate catastrophe. We knew, we worked, we did everything we could think of. Yet as I write, unprecedented wildfires scorch California – the world's 5th largest economy now has almost 5 million people without power precisely because climate change-fueled winds threaten to down powerlines and cause such fires. Floods, famines, extinctions, the spread of diseases are upon us, and psychologists counsel parents and kids beset by anxiety of a future made unliveable by global warming. Teen suicides have risen 77% since 2011.

"So let 'em chant, let them blame us.

More:

www.facebook.com/natcapsolutions/posts/10157771551923197

Source: Hunter Lovins, Natural Capital Solutions, 7th November 2019

Editor: Letter to Greta Thunberg from Hunter Lovins. 

UK's Treasury's Net-Zero Minister: Climate Action will be a 'Signature Theme' of Next Government

"Speaking exclusively to edie following the launch of its Net-Zero Review, HM Treasury minister Simon Clarke outlines the Government's plans to deliver on the legislation to reduce the UK's emissions to net-zero by 2050.

"Last Saturday [2nd November], the Government announced its review into the economic impact of net-zero, outlining the terms of reference and how it plans to take forward the agenda ahead of the UN's COP26 climate action conference next autumn in Glasgow.

"The review has been welcomed by the Committee on Climate Change (CCC), who had written previously to HM Treasury minister Simon Clarke calling for such a review to take place.

"Now Clarke, previously a backbencher who has campaigned for net-zero to become a government target, is in charge of this review, stating it is going to focus on 'the 'how' and framing the debate'.

"Clarke is clear on the nature of the review - and what it will deliver: 'It's not designed to say we will do 'x, y and z' specifically', he says, 'but what it is designed to do is to look at the big picture questions that underline what the government has got to do over the next 30 years.'

"Clarke is keen to stress that the government is the first Western finance ministry to commission such a study. ...

More: www.edie.net/news/16/net-zero-minister-simon-clarke-interview plus 'Treasury launches Net-Zero Review to measure costs of decarbonisation' at www.edie.net/news/11/Net-Zero-November--Government-launches-Net-Zero-Review/

Source: edie, 8th November 2019. 

Inefficient Light Bulb Sales Halve

"Supermarket sales of energy-hungry incandescent light bulbs have halved since 2015, a trend welcomed by EECA.

"However Chief Executive Andrew Caseley says there's a way to go before all New Zealand homes have switched to energy efficient and climate-friendly LEDs.

"Mr Caseley says about 4.6 million incandescent light bulbs were sold in the year from May 2015 to end of April 2016, dropping to about 2.8 million in the year to the end of April 2019. Sales of LEDs have grown from about 248,500 in 2015 to over 604,000 to the end of April 2019, Mr Caseley says.

"These trends are very encouraging because LEDs save households money and contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions through reduced energy use. If 100,000 more New Zealanders switched all their household lighting to LEDs, that would prevent 1,669 tonnes of CO₂ being released into the atmosphere per year – that's equivalent to roughly 35,000 people not flying from Auckland to Wellington per year."

More: www.eeca.govt.nz/news-and-events/media-releases/new-asales-of-inefficient-light-bulbs-plummet-as-kiwis-embrace-ledsrticle-page/

Source: EECA, 8th November 2019.

Editor: The longer we use incandescents the more we contribute to power co. profits and add to the GDP!

How Green are New Zealand's Supermarkets?

"Our supermarket trade is dominated by two players, so we don't have much choice when it comes to the weekly shop. However, the big impact that food has on the environment means supermarkets have a key role to play in sustainability.

"We checked out how Woolworths New Zealand (owner of Countdown supermarket and franchisor of the SuperValue and FreshChoice stores) and Foodstuffs (the name behind New World, Pak'nSave and Four Square co-operatives) measure up against key environmental goals. We asked them what they're doing to reduce food and packaging waste, decrease carbon emissions, and source from sustainable suppliers.

"What to know;

- Despite their stated environmental commitments, both of New Zealand's two major supermarket companies are failing to report on key issues such as their waste to landfill. Foodstuffs also failed to provide figures on its carbon emissions.
- While they're taking steps to manage some impacts, we think they need to do a much better job disclosing how they're performing on the environment front and put hard numbers behind their commitments.

Green goals

Food waste

Packaging waste

Climate change ...

Sustainable suppliers

More: www.consumer.org.nz/articles/how-sustainable-are-supermarkets

Source: *Consumer*, 9th November 2019

Editor: A longish article. Have you noticed the huge number of plastic food pouches over the last couple of years, many of very small sizes? Read www.huffpost.com/entry/baby-food-pouches-plastic_n_59120da5e4b050bdca600cb0

Inequality and the Climate Crisis: Reflections on Gough's *Heat, Greed and Human Need*

"Stern dismissed any significant relationship between environmental and social policy, by saying there is little point in equitable access to a train wreck. Gough in his book, *Heat, Greed and Human Need* disagrees. He states equity, redistribution and prioritising human needs, far from being diversions from the basic task of decarbonising the economy, are critical climate policies. The move to a green economy can only be successful if both environmental and social policies (eco-social policies, defined as policies which pursue both equity/justice and sustainability/sufficiency goals) are integrated. When it operates within a global economy of gross inequality (between and within countries) it will fail to raise standards of wellbeing to a sufficient level, or it will fail to reduce emission at a sufficient rate, or it will fail at both

More: <http://a-resilient-world.blogspot.com/>

Source: Robert Howell, 10th November 2019

Editor: This is a lengthy review and thought piece. If anyone would like to work with Robert further on this issue and in particular some policy options especially for NZ, contact him at rhowellnz@gmail.com

Transition Engineering: Building a Sustainable Future

"Most of us worry about climate change and realise urgent action is needed, but what inspires someone to take on the job of figuring out how to save the planet?

"University of Canterbury mechanical engineering Professor Susan Krumdieck, a pioneer in the emerging field of Transition Engineering, has written the world's first book on engineering the carbon downshift, including tackling the huge issues of climate change and decline in oil supply.

"When my son was a boy, he was getting really worried about climate change. He wanted to know that sustainable energy – my research area at the time – would be the solution', Professor Krumdieck says.

"I remember the conversation 15 years ago when I had to come clean with my son. I had to tell him even if all the solar and wind and other sustainability work was successful, it wouldn't change the unsustainable use of fossil fuels.

"When your child, with total faith in you, says: 'Well Mum, you have to figure out what will work, then you have to challenge your assumptions.'

"Her new book, *Transition Engineering: Building a Sustainable Future*, examines new strategies emerging in response to the mega-issues of global climate change, decline in conventional oil supply, scarcity of key industrial minerals, and local environmental constraints. The book does not offer solutions, but rather the methodology for discovering innovative changes in unsustainable systems.

"All of our unsustainable energy and material use is possible through successful engineering, therefore achieving transition will require evolution in engineering'

"The book's content has been taught in universities in Europe and New Zealand. It has also been used in professional development courses. Transition Engineering projects have been carried out in transportation, housing, commercial buildings, products, airlines, agriculture and energy use. ...

More: www.canterbury.ac.nz/news/2019/how-to-engineer-a-zero-carbon-future.html plus www.crcpress.com/Transition-Engineering-Building-a-Sustainable-Future/Krumdieck/p/book/9780367341268

Source: Susan Krumdieck, LinkedIn about 3rd Nov 2019.

The Aotearoa Circle's Sustainable Finance Forum Names Three Top Priorities for Sustainable Finance System

In their 'must read' interim report The Aotearoa Circle is seeking feedback and ideas on potential pathways and other ideas to deliver a sustainable financial system. Read the report and see page 61 of the report for the feedback opportunity. The following articles are related to the interim report

More: www.theaotearoacircle.nz/the-articles/2019/10/31/media-release-sff plus www.theaotearoacircle.nz/s/1013241_Sustainable-Finance-Report_FINAL.pdf 68 pages 2.21Mb.

Source: Editor, 31st October 2019. 

Should Directors Who Ignore Climate Change Risks Keep Their Jobs?

"When a legal opinion, suggesting company directors are personally liable if they fail to assess climate change risks, was aired at a closed session of a business and climate change conference in Auckland earlier this month, there was some fluttering in the dovescotes.

"Written by leading law firm Chapman Tripp, the opinion finds that 'directors must address climate change risk to their companies as they would any other financial risk'.

"It says the same duty extends to managers of KiwiSaver and other investment funds 'where to do otherwise could post a material financial risk to the investment portfolio'.

"That conclusion, says Chapman Tripp, does no more than reflect 'commercial common sense'.

"Climate change presents a foreseeable risk of financial harm to many companies, particularly with respect to the impacts of transitioning to a lower-carbon economy.'

"The opinion was released publicly this morning as part of the wider publication of the latest in a string of instances of corporate activism, the interim report of the Sustainable Finance Forum, an initiative of the Aotearoa Circle.

"The Circle is a collection of corporate and investor interests led by NZ Super Fund CEO Matt Whineray and Westpac senior executive Karen Silk and its interim report appears heavily influenced by the views of Mindful Money, the ethical investment service being pioneered by former Green MP Barry Coates.

More: www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c_id=3&objectid=12280898 [Paywall]

Source: *NZ Herald*, page B4, 31st Oct 2019

In addition there are **18 related articles** published as a feature at www.nzherald.co.nz/tags/1503725/;

- Sustainable finance forum report 2019: Taking steps towards financing the future – Sir Robert Fenwick.
- Sustainable Finance: Businesses urged to find their 'inner Greta' – Sir Jonathon Porritt
- Sustainable Finance: Investing in a better world – Matt Whineray, CEO of NZ Super Fund.
- Task isn't insurmountable if we pull together – Sir Stephen Tindall
- Sustainable Finance: 'No such thing as waste' – LanzaTech founder Dr Sean Simpson
- Sustainable Finance: Getting down to grassroots – Mark Hiddleston is Managing Director, ANZ Commercial & Agri
- Sustainable Finance: 'Carbon is the new tobacco,' says Vector boss – Simon Mackenzie
- Sustainable Finance: My 'human' test of Future Finance – Mark Peterson, Chief Executive, NZX
- Sustainable Finance: Why banks have a big role to play – Karen Silk, Acting GM for the Experience Hub
- Sustainable Finance: Climate change challenge for regulators – Rob Everett, Financial Markets Authority CEO
- Insuring a sustainable future – Bryce Davies, General Manager Corporate Relations at IAG
- Sustainable Finance: The time to act is now – Fran O'Sullivan interviews business leaders
- Burning lessons from afar: the Canada experience – Barbara Zvan, chief risk and strategy officer of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan
- Sustainable Finance: Using the Te Ao Māori worldview – Debbie Birch, full time professional director with a portfolio of governance roles in the tourism, primary industry, financial services and local government sectors.
- Sustainable Finance: Floating green finance – Pip Best, Climate Change and Sustainability Services Director at EY
- Financial reform is fundamental – Lucie Drummond, Risk Assurance Officer at Mercury
- Sustainable Finance: 'We expect industry to play its part' – Grant Robertson, Finance Minister
- Sustainable Finance: A hydrogen-powered future – Tim McCready, Senior Consultant BioPacific Partners, journalist

Plus: *NZ Herald* - Sustainable Financial Business Report 2019, *Financing the Future – Call to Arms on Climate Change*, with a mix of the same plus other articles. Published 28th October 2019, 28 pages and available at

https://issuu.com/apn_mediaservices/docs/nzme_sustainablefinancialbusinessreport_2019 

Hard Truths About the Green Economy: The Race to Clean Up Mineral Supply Chains

The November edition of Ethical Corporations monthly magazine is entitled *Hard Truths about the Green Economy: the Race to Clean Up Mineral Supply Chains*

In addition to marketing several conferences this (50 page 31.81Mb) UK magazine – available now free of charge upon registration – canvasses the following topics;

Responsible Mining Briefing:

- Rocky road to the clean economy
- Betting on blockchain to de-risk mining
- Portugal's lithium dreams run into opposition

Sustainable Transport Briefing:

- The long haul to sustainable aviation fuels
- Taxes or offsets? Airlines feel the pressure
- High Hopes for hydrogen to take strain of road transport
- India's EV Revolution takes different road
- Going digital on the buses in Africa
- What's on the web

More: <https://eloqua.ethicalcorp.com/LP=25870>

Source: Ethical Corporation, 9th November 2019

Editor: Lanza Tech receives mention. The taxes or offsets article will be of particular interest to island nation residents and the H article to Taranaki folks. 

How to Talk About Climate Change: A Toolkit for Encouraging Collective Action

"For those working on achieving meaningful action about climate change, locally and internationally, effective communications can create hope, improve people's understanding of the causes and solutions, open doors to collaboration between people, business and politicians, and motivate people to act in meaningful ways, to be agents of change. We can inspire our children, show them all that is possible when adults come together to work on understanding the problems, and building better systems for them, their children and the planet we live in partnership with.

"Our communications must therefore have a sound evidential basis. We need to know they will be effective, ethical and have an impact in helpful ways. Mainstream climate communication has, to date, focussed heavily on fear, economic impacts, and led with facts. And while climate change is alarming, urgent, has significant economic repercussions, and requires people to think productively about the causes and solutions, inspiring action at the right level requires more than communicating the facts and the dangers. We need strategies grounded in the evidence of persuasive communication: the science of story.

"This toolkit is to help us use strategies which inspire hope, build connections between people, open doors to people developing more productive understandings of the causes of climate change, and encourages collective action on evidence-informed solutions, across local and international settings. ...

More: www.theworkshop.org.nz/environment-climate 24 pages, 8.12Mb

Source: *SBC Weekly Pānui*, 31st October 2019.

Editor: In the suite there are two briefer tools which are equally readable and visually appealing:

- *How to Talk About Climate Change: A Short Guide*, 2019; 20 pages, 4.92Mb
- *How to Talk About Climate Change: A Cheat Sheet*, 2019; 12 pages, 2.11Mb

Source: *Carbon News*, 12th November 2019. 

Focusing on the Positive

"Yesterday I went to a lecture from one of SBN's most learned friends Dr Niki Harré. Niki is an expert on the psychology of change, and one of the key takeaways I have had from her work over the years is the power of focusing on the positive – the solutions, and avoiding banging on and reinforcing the negative - the issues.

"Here are the core messages from Niki's four principles for creating positive social change:

1. Use the winds of change – Build resources and networks and then look for opportunities to talk about your cause
2. People are happiness seekers – Understand that people will be attracted to activities that make them feel good
3. People copy each other – Demonstrate new ways of being, and work with others to enable and highlight innovative practices that will be part of a flourishing future
4. People want to be good – Set an example, create a pathway, then speak and act from the heart and people will want to join you.

Source: Dave Watson, SBN, 31st October 2019. 

Italy to Become First Country to Make Studying Climate Change Compulsory in Schools

"Fioramonti, from the anti-establishment 5-Star Movement, is the government's most vocal supporter of green policies and was criticised by the opposition in September for encouraging students to skip school and take part in climate protests.

"In an interview in his Rome office [on 4th Nov], Fioramonti said all state schools would dedicate 33 hours per year, almost one hour per school week, to climate change issues from the start of the next academic year in September.

"Many traditional subjects, such as geography, mathematics and physics, would also be studied from the perspective of sustainable development, said the minister, a former economics professor at South Africa's Pretoria University.

"The entire ministry is being changed to make sustainability and climate the centre of the education model', Fioramonti told Reuters in the interview conducted in fluent English.

"I want to make the Italian education system the first education system that puts the environment and society at the core of everything we learn in school.' ...

More: www.reuters.com/article/us-climate-change-italy-exclusive/exclusive-italy-to-make-climate-change-study-compulsory-in-schools-idUSKBN1XF1E1 

LCANZ 10th Anniversary Summit

"The Life Cycle Association of New Zealand CANZ 10th Anniversary Summit will include speakers from the LCA community as well as industry insights from our members in a year which also marks 50 years of LCA practice. The themes for the day reflect the need to #rethink how LCA is used and communicated, to support the needs of today's business and society.

- LCA & Decision Making
- LCA & Carbon
- LCA & Communications

"Guest speakers include Dr James Fava (Anthesis Group), Dr Barbara Nebel (thinkstep), Dr Rachel Chiaroni-Clarke (Office of the Prime Ministers Chief Science Advisor) and Professor Sarah McLaren (Massey University).

When/Where: 9:00am – 5:00pm Wed. 27th November, plus dinner event in the evening; Auckland

More: <https://lcanz.org.nz/events/rethinklca-summit/>

Source: *SBC Weekly Pānui*, 31st October 2019. 