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As I write this we have seen twelve (12) months of a downturn caused mostly by the price of oil however the price natural gas has languished for more than five (5) years so with both down our Canadian Industry is very much challenged to survive. Supply of oil continues to outpace demand and in some sense the Saudis feel they can outlast Non-OPEC producers (Canada included) and maintain their market share going forward. In the past when they have lowered output to keep the price of oil up it has encourage Non-OPEC producers to increase output.

Canada is the world's fifth largest combined oil and gas producer. Of all major hydrocarbon producing jurisdictions, Canada is the only one facing active and vocal domestic and international opposition to gaining international market access for its crude, for the sole purpose of lowering global emissions.

We do have some support out there – find following a couple of articles.

Getting real about the need to transport oil – Dr Patrick Moore – Article originally published by the Toronto Sun on August 24, 2015

- A co-founder and former leader of Greenpeace, Dr. Patrick Moore is now Chair for Ecology, Energy, and Prosperity with the Frontier Centre for Public Policy.

A recent report issued by the Fraser Institute makes it clear that transporting oil by pipelines is far safer than by railcars. One need look no further than the tragic deaths and destruction in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec and the fiery derailment of a train carrying three million gallons of crude in West Virginia earlier this year.

Yet irrational public opposition and timid politicians are preventing the construction of vital pipeline infrastructure across the North American continent while oil transport by rail skyrockets.

Now we have the David Suzuki Foundation calling for an end to the transport of oil altogether, because “there is no safe way to transport it”. Of course the logical extension of this is that there is no safe way to transport people, therefore all transport of people should be banned.

But there is no sense in looking for logic as anti-pipeline activists and special interests in rail transport conspire to derail Canada's national energy policy.

Even the obviously intelligent Energy East pipeline proposal, which would replace Saudi, Venezuelan, and European oil with Canadian oil, delivering billions in reduced cost, is fiercely opposed in Quebec and Ontario.

In British Columbia, the anti-oil campaign conveniently ignores the fact that the province imports nearly \$3 billion worth of refined oil in pipelines annually, most of it from Alberta, to keep the wheels turning. Then there is the undeniable fact that civilization as

we know it would come to a screeching halt if the more than one billion cars, motorbikes, trucks, buses, and planes ran out of fuel tomorrow.

I have a proposal to separate the wheat from the chafe in this bizarre conversation. Let's do the project in Quebec and British Columbia, Francophone and Anglophone, East and West.

Every person pulling up to a filling station with a motorized vehicle will be asked if they support the transport of fuel from wells and refineries to the filling station.

If they answer in the affirmative they will be provided with fuel. If they answer in the negative they will be refused service. This will help to "reduce the amount of oil being transported", as demanded by the David Suzuki Foundation last week.

It is only fair that the people who oppose oil transport should be the first to stop using it. And this strategy would certainly flush out the hypocrites who continue to use oil while claiming to oppose it.

After three months there would be a public release of the numbers of people who answered yes versus no. It can be predicted with fair certainty that this is where a real 97% consensus would be revealed for all to see, unlike the fabricated claim that 97% of climate scientists believe in catastrophic, human-caused climate change.

Magic Pixie Dust = An Energy Source Without Consequence...

By: Licia Corbella *Article originally published by the Calgary Herald on May 14th, 2014*

As Alberta celebrates the 100th anniversary of the discovery of oil in this province, there are many people across Canada and around the world who have made it clear that they wish that day had never happened.

So I thought it would be fun to play fairy godmother to those people and grant them their wish. Wave magic wand and poof! Wish granted. That black mark on Canada's reputation has never existed. Oil was never discovered in Alberta on May 14, 1914, and therefore the rest of the country doesn't have an oil industry either, since it was very much Alberta's vision that spurred most of the other regions to get into the game — albeit much later than Alberta.

Immediately, 1.38 million barrels a day of conventional crude and 1.94 million barrels per day of oilsands bitumen is suddenly no longer being made! Hooray! It's so much fun to be a fairy godmother.

Of course, natural gas hasn't been found either — meaning that 13.7 billion cubic feet per day of this cleaner fuel is also non-existent, so many more Canadians must use mostly coal to heat their homes. Oh dear. That's not very positive, since coal is not as clean as natural gas. Fairy godmother just hates being the bearer of bad news.

Shutting down Alberta's oil and gas industry will result in an immediate reduction of Canada's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 163 megatonnes (MT) per year.

Yipee! Fairy godmothers just love delivering cheery news! But wait a minute. While that sounds like a lot of GHGs, it's really just a drop in the bucket. Canada produces just 1.8 per cent of the world's man-made GHGs and the oilsands produce just eight per cent of that, but almost one-quarter of the wealth on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Wave magic wand and poof — all of that wealth has disappeared too. That means you can't retire until you're 85. But take it from fairy godmother, working forever is fun!

You may think by taking all of that oil and gas out of production, prices would spike in Canada and the U.S. But not to worry, oil and gas will still flow, only now it will come from somewhere else, mostly Saudi Arabia — which uses a good portion of its oil wealth to fund al-Qaeda and other groups like that. Bloody oil, is, after all, so much nicer than Alberta's so-called dirty oil. Other oil will also flow from Venezuela, Iran, Russia and fabulous places like that, where protesters don't dare tread.

More than 116,000 jobs in Alberta would be lost that are directly tied to oil and gas — or rather, they never existed to begin with. Which is too bad, because they are among the most high paying jobs in the country, providing billions in taxes to the federal and provincial treasuries from individuals alone. Poof, gone! But waiting even longer for a heart or hip operation is a small price to pay for doing away with the blight that is our oil and gas industry.

Tens of thousands of other jobs across the country, including manufacturing jobs in Quebec and Ontario, will disappear like a mirage too. By closing down all of Canada's oil and gas industry, all of those Hollywood stars like Neil Young and Daryl Hannah won't be focusing on Alberta and Canada and perhaps will start focusing on U.S. coal instead — which belches out 27 times more GHGs than the oilsands industry in Alberta.

The top 50 polluting coal fired plants in the United States produce two per cent of the world's GHG emissions, which is more than all of Canada's GHGs for everything — transportation, home heating, manufacturing, the oilsands, agriculture — everything!

According to Alberta Finance, in 2011 alone, Albertans paid \$39.6 billion to federal coffers and got back \$20.6 billion in federal services, which means the rest of the country got to share \$19 billion of Albertans' money. That's the equivalent of \$5,012 per Albertan that gets distributed to help pay for the health care of our brothers and sisters in Newfoundland and Vancouver Island. That makes Alberta the largest net contributor to Confederation — by far. Fairy godmothers just love sharing. But oops, I forgot, wave wand and poof! Most of that money is gone now. Indeed, Alberta isn't much of a province at all today. There's some really great agricultural activity going on, but not much else. Alberta is now a have-not province, just like every other province in Canada. Our GHG emissions are way down because no one can afford to drive anywhere, let alone fly.

But not to worry, Neil Young is still flying here in a private jet — not to protest the oilsands, but to do some fly fishing.

Sometimes being a fairy godmother isn't as fun as it sounds.

From The Thursday File

If you only read the books that everyone else is reading, you can only think what everyone else is thinking.

- Haruki Murakami, Norwegian Wood