

Alberta's Carbon Levy and the Nonprofit-Charitable Sector

Alberta's new Climate Leadership Implementation Act passes into law measures that were announced through the 2016-17 provincial budget, including Alberta's new carbon levy. Scheduled to come into effect January 1st, 2017, the levy will apply to all fuels that emit greenhouse gases, including heating and transportation fuels.

In designing the carbon levy program, the Government of Alberta has included measures to mitigate the financial impact on small business, farmers, and 60% of Alberta households. Additionally, the levy will not be collected on reserves. Despite these measures, the budget does not acknowledge increased costs to nonprofits and charities. As it is presently structured, the Carbon Levy program places a disproportionate burden on Alberta's nonprofits and charities that have little means at their disposal to recoup these costs.

What We're Doing

The Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations, the Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations, and Volunteer Alberta are working with the Ministry of Environment and Parks on this issue. We have emphasized that we do not oppose a carbon tax. To the contrary, we applaud the Government for demonstrating leadership on the climate change file and believe Alberta's nonprofits and charities have an important role to play in addressing climate change. However, we have stressed the importance of using economic modeling to understanding the impact of the levy on Alberta's nonprofits and charities. We have also urged the Province to consider policy options that:

- a) Mitigate the financial impact on the nonprofit-charitable sector.
- b) Minimize administrative burden to the nonprofit-charitable sector and government.
- c) Provide nonprofits and charities with incentive to reduce emissions.

We are pleased that the Minister of Environment and Parks has agreed to our request to form a working group consisting of government and nonprofit representatives, along with subject matter experts, to focus on this issue. We will provide updates as work in this area progresses.

For More Information

For details on Alberta's new Carbon Levy, click [here](#).

If you wish to be on a list for further updates or communications or would like to discuss the issue further, please contact Geoff Braun, Director of Policy and Research, CCVO, gbraun@calgarycvo.org.



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