Sustainability Matters

Compiled and published by Ray Skinner, FCA

Business achieving a tomorrow for tomorrow's children



CA ANZ Joins Professional Bodies Climate Action Charter

"Today [4th November] Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand joined a diverse group of Australia and New Zealand's most distinguished professional bodies to officially launch the Global Professional Bodies Climate Action Charter in Australia and New Zealand. [Based in Europe the Charter was launched in Europe in June 2021]. The Charter aims to facilitate collaboration and sharing of resources amongst disciplines to advance and accelerate climate action. Through an interdisciplinary approach, it also aims to develop a common language of sustainability between and across professions.

- "Members of the Charter commit to supporting their members in contributing to a better future for our planet, and to assist the acceleration of climate engagement across the broader region.
- "CA ANZ is thrilled to join the Global Professional Bodies Climate Action Charter', said Chief Executive Officer Ainslie van Onselen. 'Taking action on climate is a collective challenge, and therefore we must band together in a collective response. We look forward to working alongside the Charter members, and to share our expertise and knowledge.'
- "The initial [Australian and New Zealand] group includes CA ANZ, Engineers Australia and the National Environmental Law Association as well as professional associations peak body Australian Council of Professions and the peak body representing forward-thinking companies and organisations Business Council for Sustainable Development Australia.
- "Representing over 1 million professionals across Australia and New Zealand, this announcement signals the growing momentum for professional bodies to provide leadership, upto-date technical and ethical guidance as well as advocacy which can be communicated across the professions and society.

"This collective commitment to the global Professional Bodies Climate Action Charter seeks to help turn the pledges of professional bodies into broader action across the sectors, through two primary means:

- Developing a plan to support our members to contribute towards the Paris Agreement and UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- Accelerating climate actions at both pace and scale across Australia and New Zealand through engagement with professional bodies, government and the public.

"In collaboration with other bodies, we intend to harness and share our joint expertise and climate-relevant resources for our members to enhance their capabilities to practice sustainability, including a timeline for achieving this, and identifying the help and collaboration needed from within our partnerships to achieve this.

More: www.charteredaccountantsanz.com/news-andanalysis/news/australian-and-new-zealand-professionslaunch-charter-for-climate-action plus www.professions.org.au/membership/ and https://professionalsclimatecharter.org/ Source: Acuity Newsletter, 15th November 2021.

Jeanette Fitzsimons Climate Action Grants

"This year, the Jeanette Fitzsimons Climate Acton Grants are collaborating with Science, Technology and Art Trust (S+ART) to give two grants (up to \$5,000 each) for projects which are targeted at climate action and/or projects which encourage economies of 'enough'. The criteria are:

Applications Close. Friday, 10th December 2021 **More:**

www.ourclimatedeclaration.org.nz/jeanette_fitzsimmon s_climate_action_grants

Source: Tieke: ECO News, Alerts & Events, 22nd Nov 2021. Bedrock Rights

In *Bedrock Rights*, Kathleen Dean Moore reported during COP26 on an international human rights court ruling which transnational fossil fuel corporations and governments, in collusion, are directly violating rights guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Read the four instalments, the fourth of which was released on the final day of COP26;

- The Human Rights Case Against Climate Change
- Climate Change Violates the Human Right to Clean Water
- Climate Change Violates the Right to Life
- Conclusions.
- More: <u>https://orionmagazine.org/article/bedrock1/</u> plus <u>www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUqXyGuxDo8&ab_chann</u> <u>el=SpringCreekProject</u> 40:22, 3rd June 2021
- **Source:** Orion, 12th and 19th November 2021.

Climate COP-Out 26

For an extensive overview and several links, plus an interesting graphic from Climate Action Tracker.

" The COP is a mixture of three meetings, meetings of Parties to: the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); the Kyoto Protocol; and Paris Agreement. So there are actually three Glasgow Climate Pact outcomes

More: <u>https://mailchi.mp/eco.org.nz/tieke-eco-news-alerts-events-22-november-4905430</u>

Source: Tieke: ECO News, Alerts & Events, 22nd Nov. 2021

- **Editor:** There are of course many other reviews and comments. Within them there is positive news just not sufficient, nor at the pace necessary in an 'emergency'. Among them are;
 - <u>https://350.org.nz/post-cop26-power-to-change-</u> things-is-with-the-people/
 - <u>https://www.ceres.org/news-center/blog/cop26-over-now-its-investors-companies-and-governments-raise-their-climate</u>
 - <u>https://mailchi.mp/climatehome/g20-leaves-the-heavy-lifting-to-cop26-2687637</u>
 - www.edie.net/news/9/COP26-Glasgow-Climate-Pactfinal-agreement/
 - www.carbonees.com/single-post/snippets-for-18november-2021 - with links
 - <u>https://e360.yale.edu/features/glasgow-disappointed-but-it-inched-the-world-forward-on-climate</u>
- And Mia Mottley a `fearless leader' and a `breakout star'; <u>www.climatechangenews.com/2021/11/18/mia-</u> <u>mottley-fearless-leader-pushing-global-settlement-</u> <u>climate-frontlines/</u>



National Food Roadmap Update

- "Our next partner update webinar will be hosted by The Aotearoa Circle's, Izzy Fenwick and DNA Design's Daniel Talbot. Daniel and Izzy will be presenting an update on our National Food Roadmap, also known as The Mana Kai Initiative.
- "The Mana Kai Initiative is a collaborative effort of multiple groups within the Aotearoa New Zealand food system to cocreate a roadmap of solutions to some of the biggest challenges facing the system today. These challenges go to the heart of what it means to have a sustainable food system with equal access to affordable, nutritious, and sustainably grown kai.
- "Guided by a Leadership Group which includes representatives as diverse as groups helping with food insecurity to farmers, nutritionists and scientists, Mana Kai has kõrero as its core approach and is grounded in Te Ao Māori wisdom and values.

When/Where: Noon to 12:45, 1st December, 2021

More: <u>www.theaotearoacircle.nz/mana-kai</u> plus <u>www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/the-aotearoa-circle-web-series-</u> <u>national-food-roadmap-update-tickets-204845316857</u>

Source: Aotea Circle, 10th November 2021.

Martin Hill & Philippa Jones: The Art of the Sustainable

"Alasdair Foster interviews photographers around the world on his website Talking Pictures. His in-depth interview with Philippa and I currently heads up his website.

"Of all that has been written about us it is the most accurate description of our work, its philosophy and ecological approach.

More:

www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn%3Ali%3Aactivity% 3A6865463260611801089/ plus https://talkingpictures.net.au/2021/11/13/martin-hill-philippa-jonesthe-art-of-the-sustainable-2/

Source: LinkedIn Update, 15th November 2021

Editor: If nothing else look at Martin's wonderful photographic work.

Energy Transition and Economic Sufficiency: Food, Transportation and Education in a Post-Carbon Society

"Will the winding down of fossil-fuel consumption lead to radical changes in our lives? Or can we turn away from the climate crisis cliff while the industrial economy just keeps growing?

- "Renewable energy sources have powered civilisations for nearly all of history and must do so again. But usable energy will become a more precious resource, as it was before our brief, explosive binge on the most easily accessible fossil fuels. In coming years we will have to recognise when 'enough is enough'. Sufficiency, not growth, needs to be the focus of the new economy.
- "The authors of this volume discuss changes in food production and distribution, urbanisation and rural revitalisation, cargo transportation, energy generation, law, and education. They show how many aspects of contemporary technology, plus lessons from our long history, can help us in the 'sufficient economy' of the future.
- "Renewable energies will not save our always-on, constantly growing, high-energy economy. But if we share the wealth to produce what we really need, renewable energies can power a sustainable civilisation.
- More: <u>www.postcarbon.org/publications/energy-transition-</u> <u>and-economic-sufficiency</u>
- **Source:** Post Carbon Institute, 10th November 2021.

Two COP26 Fossils

"Colossal fossil' – Australia has been named the 'colossal fossil' of COP26 for its 'appalling performance' over the past two weeks and continued support for fossil fuels. 'Their subsequent performance has resembled parts of the Australian outback, a barren wasteland devoid of any strategy, policy or idea on fossil fuels, energy or transport', Climate Action Network said, adding the only good thing about Australia's presence at the summit was their pavilion served the best coffee.

"Fossil of the day' – When James Shaw (NZ's Climate Minister) stated just because a refreshing of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) has been asked of countries 'it doesn't mean we have to'. New Zealand has also been a roadblock in setting limits on carbon offsetting in Article 6 showing our government is clearly not taking their domestic emissions reduction role seriously. Expectations were understandably high at this crucial COP and New Zealand's contribution has been disappointing.

More: <u>https://climatenetwork.org/resource/colossal-fossil-</u> <u>for-australias-new-government/</u> and <u>https://climatenetwork.org/resource/fossil-of-the-day-</u> <u>10-november-2021-uk-and-new-zealand/</u>

Source: Climate Home News 13th Nov. and Lawyers for Climate Action 12th Nov. 2021.

Value Reporting Foundation Symposium "Building off the success of the longstanding IIRC Conference and SASB Symposium, the Value Reporting Foundation Symposium convenes global businesses, institutional investors (both asset owners and asset managers), policymakers and advisors. It will discuss how to incorporate a holistic view of value creation into decision making and reporting. Founded on intellectual rigor, the Symposium convenes leading experts to discuss progress towards a comprehensive corporate reporting system and provides insights from businesses and investors using integrated thinking, the Framework and/or SASB Standards.

"The corporate reporting landscape is at a momentous inflection point – hear leading experts from around the world demystify this quickly evolving space.

"The Symposium will offer two full days of content, emphasising a regional focus which incorporates EMEA, the Americas and Asia-Pacific. While each block of content will have a time zone focus, any attendee can attend any block and all content will be available for replay after it airs live.

When/Where: 6th -7th December. Online. **More:** <u>www.valuereportingfoundation.org/symposium</u> **Source:** Value Reporting Foundation, 19th Nov. 2021.

Fueling the Transition: Accelerating Cost-Competitive Green Hydrogen

"Green hydrogen production costs could fall below US\$2 per kilogram in many locations in the next five years. This zerocarbon fuel will be critical to decarbonising some of the hardest-to-abate sectors, such as shipping and steelmaking. Achieving the crucial US\$2/kg target for cost-competitiveness will enable decarbonisation of multiple sectors and play an important role in aligning the globe to a pathway that limits warming to 1.5°C.

"RMI's report, *Fueling the Transition: Accelerating Cost-Competitive Green Hydrogen*, analyses the cost reduction opportunity and the critical enabling tools required to bring cost-competitive green hydrogen to market this decade. This report is intended for industry executives, regulators, and policymakers. ...

More: <u>https://rmi.org/insight/fueling-the-transition-accelerating-cost-competitive-green-hydrogen/</u>42pages, 1.61Mb

Source: RMI, 10th November 2021.

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Carbon Sequestration by Native Forest -Setting the Record Straight

"Governments, politicians, business and community leaders, scientists, activists, artists and more are currently gathered in Glasgow for one of the largest and most important huis for humanity, at COP26.

- "As presented by Prof. Johan Rockström in his new report, Nature-based solutions are one of Ten New Insights in Climate Science. In this, Aotearoa's indigenous forests play a key role in helping solve the climate and ecosystem crisis at home; they are an opportunity and our advantage.
- "And so today, Pure Advantage and Tanes Tree Trust add an additional layer to the discourse for more native forest, with new research for the O Tātou Ngāhere programme of work; Carbon Sequestration by Native Forest - Setting the Record Straight.

"In a first for research of this type about planted native forest, the paper confirms while radiata pine is faster growing, the carbon sequestration difference between radiata pine and well-managed planted native forest is closer than previously thought, and that native reforestation and regeneration brings extensive benefits to New Zealand's climate and ecosystem over time. Forest growers estimate carbon stock for the Emissions Trading Scheme through the Carbon Lookup tables from the Ministry for Primary Industries

Other articles in the newsletter include;

- Johan Rockström at #COP26: 10 New Insights in Climate Science
- Ten Golden Rules for Large-scale Establishment of Native Forest
- Valuing Native Forest on Private Land
- Podcast Series: Our Regenerative Future S2 ~ O Tātou Ngāhere
- Regenerative Agriculture Continues to take Flight More:

https://pureadvantage.cmail19.com/t/ViewEmail/r/4503 42D21EAD3F8B2540EF23F30FEDED/BA684D5FD1CD5A 35D3AB5F5EEC5F0895 plus https://pureadvantage.org/carbon-sequestration-bynative-forest-setting-the-record-straight

Source: Pure Advantage, 9th November 2021.

2021's Children's Climate Prize to a 15-yearold for AI Forest Fire Technology Project

"The winner of 2021's Children's Climate Prize is Reshma Kosaraju, a fifteen-year-old from Saratoga, USA. Reshma's project, AI against forest fires, uses AI technology to predict forest fires. Her courageous, innovative and solution-oriented approach to forest fires, a highly topical and growing global issue, made Reshma's project stand out. ...

- "Fires are a natural part of a forest's ecosystem, but the underlying conditions have changed. It seems as though climate change and forest fires are increasingly mutually catalytic, resulting in more intense and longer lasting forest fires. Forest fires have become a global problem, causing over 339,000 premature deaths worldwide - and threatening biodiversity by destroying animals and nature. The project, 'AI against forest fires', can predict forest fires with almost 90% accuracy. Reshma uses open data, such as temperature, humidity, wind speed, soil moisture and human behaviour to, with the help of AI, calculate where and when the probability of a forest fire occurring is greatest. Reshma hopes the Children's Climate Prize will draw attention to her project, so more people can become aware of the AI model's existence.
- More: www.ecovoice.com.au/the-winner-of-2021s-childrensclimate-prize-is-reshma-kosaraju-a-fifteen-year-oldfrom-the-us-who-impressed-with-her-project-using-aitechnology-ai-against-forest-fires/ plus www.ccprize.org 0

Source: EcoVoice, 16th November 2021.

Warm Waters

"Warm Waters document the devastation of three super cyclones in the Pacific that hit Vanuatu, Tuvalu, Fiji, Northern Mariana Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia in 2015-2016. It also shows how coastal erosion and permafrost melting collapses indigenous towns and villages in Alaska and the Russian Kamchatka Peninsula. The project reveals inundated areas of Tuvalu and Kiribati during high tides. The deforestation and illegal logging in Papua New Guinea. Drought in Timor-Leste 2019. And much more The project also shows the resilience of people. Their strength and readiness to adapt and overcome, their joy as life continues for another day.

- "Warm Waters explores climate change in action and reaction. It reminds people the Earth is indestructible, resilient, but it responds in measure to how we treat it.
- More: https://www.vladsokhin.com/work/warmwaters/#1 [87 slides] plus www.npr.org/sections/pictureshow/2021/11/12/105403 2730/photography-climate-change-global-warmingoceans-vlad-sokhin and www.vladsokhin.com/books/ published September 2021.

Source: *OD Action News,* 14th November 2021

Leading European Business Schools Unite to Accelerate Business Response to Climate Crisis

- "Eight leading business schools have joined together to acknowledge the climate crisis and collaborate to support business leaders who will act to address the climate emergency.
- "Business Schools for Climate Leadership (BS4CL) is a unique alliance of business academic thought leaders, made up of founding members Oxford Saïd Business School, Cambridge Judge Business School, HEC Paris, IE Business School, IESE Business School, INSEAD, International Institute for Management Development and London Business School. Collectively, these schools train more than 55,000 students and executives per year, and are stewards of alumni bodies in excess of 400,000 people.

"As agents of change and the catalysts for thought leadership in today and tomorrow's business leaders, the founding members of BS4CL recognise their role in driving and accelerating business activities towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

"Their goal is to support climate leaders and organisations by collaborating on research to identify and shape best practices, and by working across sectors and generations to accelerate the business community's response to climate change. Collectively they will raise awareness of the urgency for climate change mitigation and adaptation, seeking to have an impact through joint outreach to all eight alumni communities.

"As a first step, academics from the eight founding schools worked together to produce a BS4CL climate leadership toolkit,

More: www.ecovoice.com.au/leading-european-businessschools-unite-to-accelerate-business-response-toclimate-crisis/ plus https://sites.google.com/view/bs4cl/home

Source: *EcoVoice*, 16th November 2021.

Editor: The 94 page toolkit includes topics such as *Climate* Change and Nature, Climate Change and Geopolitics, Climate Risk and Management and why they are important to business. See the toolkit at https://sites.google.com/view/bs4cl/toolkit and download from www.flipsnack.com/sbs001/bs4cl/download-pdf.html

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Ship Conversion to Green Ammonia by 2022

- "It took his team just over three months to create the world's first hydrogen fuel cell haul truck, and now green energy evangelist and billionaire Andrew Forrest is promising to put a green ship to sea within the next year, powered only by green ammonia.
- "Forrest in an address to 'transport day' at the Glasgow climate conference – also pledged to convert Fortescue Metals' entire fleet of 100 ships to green ammonia within a decade and for global shipping industry to adopt a net zero target for 2040.
- "The first ship to be converted will be the 75-metre supply ship, the MMA Leveque, to run on green ammonia, which Forrests expects to be completed within 12 months
- "You use green ammonia when you want slow revolutions, like the huge ships which go all over the world. They run between 60 and 100 revolutions per minute. Really slow; perfect for zero-pollution ammonia. The whole shipping world has to switch to it.'
- More: <u>https://reneweconomy.com.au/forrest-promises-to-</u> convert-first-ship-to-green-ammonia-within-a-year/

Source: *SnippETS*, 18th November 2021

New Zealand Green Investment Finance Backs Commercial Solar

- "NZGIF will provide financing of up to \$40 million for commercial-scale solar installations, in partnership with solar energy services provider solarZero.
- "Building on an earlier \$10 million facility for financing residential solar, NZGIF will now also provide a senior debt facility to solarZero to finance Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) for solar installations on commercial buildings. The investment includes a \$10 million facility to finance solar installations and up to \$30 million in additional funds held in reserve to scale up the facility, enabling the deployment of up to 40MW of solar generation over time.
- "The facility will directly support the growth of distributed solar power generation, reducing New Zealand's overall reliance on thermal generation, generating more than 50 GWh of electricity per annum and creating as many as 175 new clean technology jobs. ...
- Analysis undertaken by Transpower forecasts a 700% increase in distributed solar generation between 2020 and 2030. ...
- More: www.scoop.co.nz/stories/BU2111/S00389/newzealand-green-investment-finance-backs-commercialsolar.htm

Source: NZ Herald, 16th November 2021.

The Enormous Hole Whaling Left Behind

- "In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, industrial whale hunting nearly annihilated the largest creatures ever to live on Earth. Humans hunted blue whales alone so intensely their population dropped from 360,000 to around 1,000 – all within the lifespan of a single blue whale.
- "But the tragedy didn't end with the loss of whales' lives. All the lost whales – some 2 million baleen whales in a single century – created a food-web collapse which still lingers today. According to a new study, the absence of healthy whale populations left 430 million metric tons of krill uneaten every year, which meant millions of tons of iron-rich whale poop didn't fertilise ocean ecosystems. All this has caused a kind of marine desertification.

More:

www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2021/11/whalingwhales-food-krill-iron/620604/

Source: Centre of Biological Diversity, 19th Nov. 2021

Chile to Export Solar via 15,000km Cable

"The Chilean government is planning to build a submarine cable to export photovoltaic energy to China, according to Chilean solar energy association – ACESOL – which cited a statement made by Chilean president, Sebastián Piñera, during the National Meeting of Entrepreneurs (ENADE).

- "Called Antípodas, the project is aimed at taking advantage of the huge solar potential of the Atacama Desert, which is the world's region with the highest solar radiation.
- "Piñera explained, through the cable, the electricity produced by between 200 and 600 GW of photovoltaic generation capacity may transmit power to Asian countries when it is daytime in Chile and nighttime across the Pacific, or when it is winter in Asia and summer in the southern hemisphere.
- "We have the deserts with the highest solar radiation in the world and a gigantic potential for generating clean, renewable and economic solar energy', said Piñera.
- More: www.pv-magazine.com/2021/11/15/chile-wants-toexport-solar-energy-to-asia-via-15000km-submarinecable/ plus www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2021-11-12/infrastructure-plan-funds-bridges-that-localsmay-oppose

Source: Carbon News, 16th November 2021.

More NZ Climate Litigation

- "A group of University students from Students for Climate Solutions have filed a law suit this week against the Minister of Energy's June 2021 decision to grant onshore fossil fuel permits in Taranaki. The case was also worked on with Taranaki Energy Watch and Climate Justice Taranaki.
- "Spokesperson Ri Comer said, 'we are using the law to challenge the government's lack of consideration of the science, that it is completely unreasonable to keep drilling for oil for another ten years.' Phoebe Nikolaou, whāngai to Ngā Ruahine and Ngā Rauru, Law student and a founding member of Students for Climate Solutions said 'Aotearoa New Zealand has an active obligation to protect its Indigenous Peoples and Pacific neighbours. If the government says it is meeting this obligation, it is delusional at best, and lying at worst. These permits are a testament to that'.

"This climate litigation follows LCANZI's ongoing judicial review of the Climate Change Commission's advice earlier this year. We hope to see this climate litigation continue to keep pushing the New Zealand government to do better.

More: www.lawyersforclimateaction.nz/newsletters/lcanzinewsletter-november-2021 plus www.studentsforclimatesolutions.org plus www.theguardian.com/world/2021/nov/10/newzealand-students-sue-energy-minister-over-oil-and-gaspermits-decision

Source: LCANZI, 12th November 2021.

Is a University Degree Still Worth It?

"Euan Blair, the founder and chief executive of edtech start-up Multiverse, speaks to '*The Economist Asks*' about whether apprenticeships are the best way into the workplace and about the education policies of his father, British prime minister Tony Blair.

"HOST ANNE McElvoy asks the founder of Multiverse why he thinks apprenticeships are the best route into the workplace and whether the education policies of former British prime minister Tony Blair, his father, mean too many young people go to university. He reflects on growing up in the spotlight and what proximity to power has taught him. And is there the tech entrepreneur's dress code? Runtime: 27 min

More: www.economist.com/podcasts/2021/11/11/is-auniversity-degree-still-worth-it

Source: *The Economist,* 12th November 2021.

Contributions and feedback are welcomed. Send your news items, handy hints, case studies, suggestions, comments and questions to Ray Skinner, eMail: <u>ray@sustainabilitymatters.co.nz</u>, Phone: +64 (9) 443 0773, Web: <u>www.sustainabilitymatters.co.nz</u>, Apologies for any breach of copyright; it would be accidental and not intended. Donations are always welcome and appreciated – the bank account is: 12 3011 0249104 00

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