

Meter To The Editor  
April 5, 2017

I am one of those people who like the fact that glaciers melt. If they didn't, then we in Parry Sound would be under one and a half miles of ice. I think most would agree that it is a lot nicer place to live now!

Then there is Greenland, land of glaciers, but not always. During the medieval warm period the Vikings were farming on Greenland and they weren't grazing their cattle on the ice sheets. It really was green. This also includes the Roman warm period and the Minoan warm period. In fact for 9500 of the last 10,000 years this planet has been much warmer than it is now according to the Greenland ice core temperature data.

A few years back my wife and I were fortunate enough to see Glacier bay on an Alaskan cruise. The woman who was narrating the history of Glacier Bay said that when Captain Cook mapped the west coast in 1778 the glacier was almost out to the ocean but when Vancouver retraced Cook's same course the glacier had retreated inland many miles to roughly where it is today, 60 miles inland. Since this is history we can only go by what is recorded.

Then there is the Franklin expedition of 1845 to find the north west passage through the arctic. Now they were not sailing in a ship that in any way could be classed as an ice breaker. In fact those wooden ships of that day were a bit fragile when it came icebergs. Remember that giant steel hulled ship called the Titanic? It was very sensitive to ice. So how do you explain the fact that the two Franklin expedition ships HMS Erebus and HMS Terror were found in the western arctic if it was all ice covered back then. Fact is it was not all ice covered.

I would like to see the arctic far less ice covered. Why? Because the whales like the Beluga and Narwhal, that are indigenous to the arctic have to come to the surface to breath. If completely ice covered they would drown like those four Great Blue whales did a few years ago when they got caught in heavy ice cover. Then there are the seals and Walruses who need open water to feed and escape Polar bears which are at a peak in population according to the people who live there, whom I would trust before any Ottawa biologist. Remember peak populations like the Polar bear will crash as all other population peaks tend to do. Also those Polar bears that drowned a few years back got caught in a violent Arctic storm. Reality plays no favourites.

Then there are the fish eating sea birds, Terns, Gannets, Puffins, etc. that nest by the millions who require open water to feed. Total year round ice cover would decimate their populations.

All in all a warming climate is much better than a cooling one and carbon dioxide has nothing to do with it, as history proves this. Look to the sun and our elliptical orbit around it for the answers to climate. It has a 4.54 billion year track record to go on. A lot better than the 160 or so years of climate data we have collected by recordings and satellite. Written and oral history is also a good source.

One thing has become obvious. Many that promote man made climate change usually have an agenda of control over other people or they are getting a big fat cheque from the tax payers. I don't like fraud and the carbon tax is nothing but fraud and embezzlement by rule of law.

Sincerely yours,  
Douglas Heal