

Nov. 12, 2021

Dear team leaders,

More or less predictably, COP26 has had its ups and downs: powerful voices of parents and youth rising up, and frustration at the inability or unwillingness of elected leaders to stand up against the fossil fuel industry lobby.

We might want to think about debriefing as a group? Before we get to that, though, I'd like to offer an antidote to that frustration. It comes from three young people who shared their thoughts about moving from anxiety and immobilization to energy and motivation.

- First, For Our Kids Toronto hosted an excellent panel on Eco Anxiety and Youth as part of Toronto's EcoFair - you can [find the video here](#). I was particularly moved by the comments of the youth panelists about what parents can do: *show that you care*.
- And then there's this [radio segment from CBC's Fresh Air](#) about the first carbon-neutral school in Canada - in the interview, the student involved with the project talks about the feeling of "pure excitement" among students when they were given the opportunity to be involved in a solution.

If you have a chance this weekend, give them a listen. I guarantee they will inspire you.

Speaking of school action

Good news! For Our Kids has received two years' funding from Trottier Foundation to focus on an electric school bus campaign!

We're excited to have Ruth Kamnitzer join FOK to work on that campaign, which will also allow us to provide resources and support for teams working on other school-based actions.

Next:

- If you or someone on your team haven't signed up yet but want to be part of advocating for electric school buses in your district, please [sign up here](#) as soon as possible.
- If you're involved in other school-based action we can support and share across the network, please [sign up for that group here](#).
- Do you know others who aren't part of a FOK team but who would be interested in either initiative? Please share the links!

Lots more info coming soon, now that funds and plans are underway.

Reminder: Dec. 4th - Help FOK set network goals for 2022

The first national advisory council meeting in June provided really valuable insight from teams about how FOK can support you and what we can do better.

This time, we're inviting input about what FOK's goals should be for 2022 and where we could focus our energy as a network. Please try to send one member from your team to this [strategic planning session](#). More info at the link.

Justice Committee meeting Nov. 16

A reminder to members from any team who are interested in being part of this committee to [register here](#) for the Nov. 16 meeting. More info at that link.

Save the date: Dec. 18

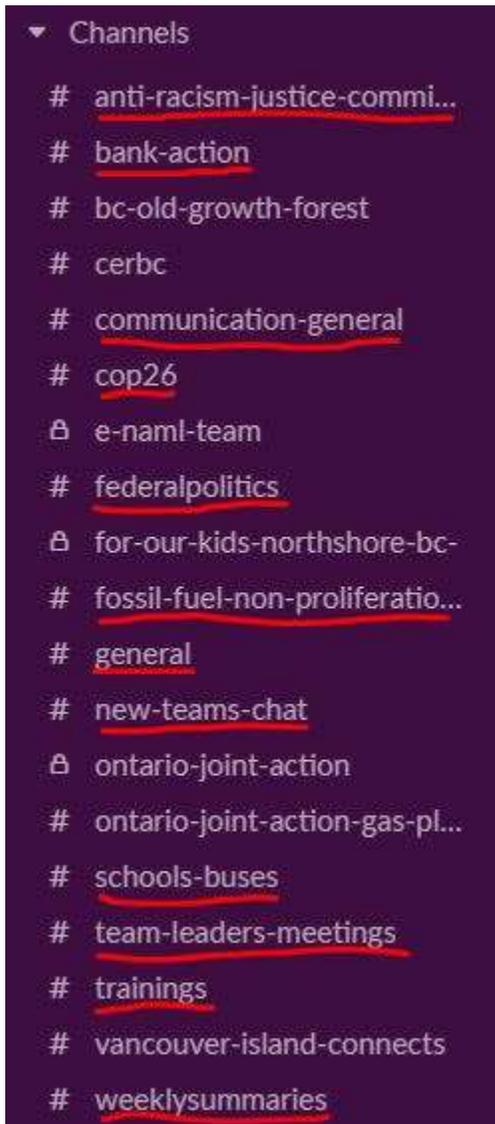
For a celebration of YOU and everything teams have been involved with this year. Time to Toast, Hail, and Boast in Elin Kelsey style. Details soon.

Time for a Slack refresh

A few channels have been archived, and it's great to see groups of teams setting up channels to use for collaborative work. If your group wants to use Slack as a communication tool, we can set up a channel for you!

Below is a list of all the current channels; those underlined in red are open to the whole network. Everyone is automatically part of the #general channel and you can request to join any of the other channels. If you see a channel on this list that you want to be a member of and it's not showing up on your list, let me know!

I realize that Slack is "another thing" to monitor, but it does really help communication and sharing of info without tying up email inboxes. Happy to walk through it with you if you're still uncertain about joining (:



Leaving it there for this week. Thank you for modelling care in action for our kids.

Take care,

Lella