



## **Carbon tax will hit economy**

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July 18, 2018

MP John Brassard is right to be concerned that each family in his riding may have to pay an extra \$2,500 a year in federal carbon taxes, according to the Canadian Taxpayers Federation.

It's too bad that Brassard and his fellow Opposition MPs were unable to get the Trudeau government to release the true cost of a national carbon tax, despite repeated queries in Question Period and a marathon session overnight in the House of Commons, where Conservative MPs tried to force the issue by offering amendments to the federal budget.

Some official numbers are available, however. In, Economic and Fiscal Outlook, the April 23, 2018 report from the Office of the Parliamentary Budget Officer, it was projected that a federal carbon tax will lower Canada's GDP by about \$10 billion in 2022 compared to a scenario without the tax.

And what do we get for this sacrifice?

Environment and Climate Change Canada concludes that the implementation of carbon pricing (taxes plus emissions trading), if done in all provinces and territories, will lower Canada's greenhouse gas emissions in 2022 by 80-90 million tonnes below that which would otherwise be the case.

Dr. Patrick Michaels, director of the Center for the Study of Science at the Washington, D.C.-based Cato Institute, explains that a reduction of 90 million tonnes per year will result in between 0.001 and 0.002 C less planetary warming by 2100 than would otherwise occur, according to the model employed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Is possibly altering our planet's temperature by thousandths of a degree worth a loss of \$10 billion to our economy?