

Media alert: Corporate Knights 2016 award of distinction goes to former Ontario premier

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WHAT: Corporate Knights Inc. holds its 15th annual Best 50 Corporate Citizens in Canada event today. In addition to ranking the performance of major companies against key sustainability metrics to identify the best 50, the awards event recognizes one leading individual each year for catalyzing high impact policy and business actions that enhance clean prosperity across society.

WHY: In 2003, the Government of Ontario began the province's transition from coal-generated electricity production to a renewable energy economy. The move to close coal plants and invest in green electricity production was initiated by then Premier Dalton McGuinty. The step was as controversial as it was necessary, and prescient in light of the 2015 international climate agreement signed in Paris.

Last year this award recognized British Columbia former Premier Gordon Campbell, now Canada's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, who took a similarly unpopular step with introduction of the carbon tax in B.C. Eight years later, few are complaining.

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