

Tabled Documents  
Bob Bromley  
MLA Weledeh

February 16, 2012

Letters and emails received in support of the need for urgent action on climate change.

Attachments

**Craig Yeo**

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**Subject:** FW: SUPPORT FOR MLA BOB

**From:** ykcompost@gmail.com [mailto:ykcompost@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Shannon Ripley  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 11:21 AM  
**To:** Craig Yeo; Bob Bromley  
**Subject:** Fwd: SUPPORT FOR MLA BOB

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Myka Jones <mykajones@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Fri, Dec 9, 2011 at 10:44 AM  
**Subject:** Re: SUPPORT FOR MLA BOB  
**To:** Shannon Ripley <swripley@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** dawn@ecologynorth.ca, nimisha91@hotmail.com, Chris Wenman <chriswenman@gmail.com>, EJ Portman <ejportman@gmail.com>, shannon@ecologynorth.ca

Dear Minister Miltenburger, Premier McLeod and the Honourable Jackie Jacobson:

This letter is in regards to Mr. Bob Bromley's recent response to the GNWT's proposed Greenhouse Gas Strategy. I support Mr. Bromley's efforts to bring serious, engaged reflection into the Legislative Assembly surrounding the topic and welcome his perspective. I understand that his comparison of the Greenhouse Gas Strategy to a "crime against humanity" may seem harsh and undue, but it accurately reflects the real, dangerous and deadly consequences of increasing greenhouse gas emissions, which we are witnessing on a daily basis not only in the Northwest Territories, but globally.

Ignoring the impacts of increasing greenhouse gas emissions is deeply irresponsible, and will no doubt contribute to profoundly harsher outcomes for millions of people worldwide, future generations, and the ecological systems on which life relies. In this respect, Mr. Bromley's comparison was munificent, bringing only *humanity* into the equation; strategies that allow for greater pollution could be seen as widespread and systemic attacks directed against land, water, air, *and* civilian populations, could they not? Why do our water, land and air not receive the same respect as our people?

I sincerely hope that the energy Mr. Bromley injected into this issue will be directed toward positive reflection, discussion and action- it would be a shame to waste it.

Sincerely,

Myka Jones

Dear Editor:

Regarding the issue of MLA Bob Bromley suggesting that the GNWT Greenhouse Gas Strategy, which will allow our emissions to surge by almost 100 per cent above 1990 levels by 2020, constitutes a crime against humanity, I would like to offer my support to Bromley.

Strong language yes, but in no way does it lump the members of this legislative assembly with the likes of Hitler, Pol Pot, or any other war criminal. Perhaps strong language is what is needed to give us pause to consider the realities of climate change and the role we each play in emitting carbons into the atmosphere.

Our leaders at every level of government in particular are morally obligated to make wise decisions that will ensure a future for generations to come.

Bob Bromley may be a "lone wolf" in the legislative assembly but out in the bigger world I doubt that that is true. I heard that when our Governor General, David Johnston, was in town that he was encouraging Mr. Bromley, suggesting that he had spoken eloquently (in defense of his "crimes against humanity" statement), and that he was not to back down! Kudos to you Bob! Thank you for showing vision and acting with integrity.

Christina Vernon

## Bob Bromley

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**From:** EJ Portman <ejportman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 9:39 AM  
**To:** Jackie Jacobson  
**Cc:** Michael Miltenberger; Bob McLeod; Jane Groenewegen; Robert Hawkins; Glen Abernethy; Bob Bromley; info@gg.ca  
**Subject:** Crimes against Humanity

Hello,

I am writing today to express my support for, and agreement with Mr. Bromley's statement in the legislature and his response upon being called to order this week.

When our decisions negatively impact the health and lives of millions of people worldwide there is no other appropriate term that could possibly be used other than Crimes against Humanity.

To attempt to characterize that as *"speaks disrespectfully of Her Majesty, any*

*member of the Royal Family, His Excellency the Governor General, the Commissioner,*

*the Assembly, or any Member."* illustrates that the member who raised this as an issue does not feel he is a part of the global community. Access to clean air, water and soil are universal needs and rights. When they are jeopardized and threatened one should expect to be judged by all peoples. I'm sure even the Queen would agree.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Portman

106-5304 49th Street,

Yellowknife, NT

X1A 1H2

(867) 669-7912

**Craig Yeo**

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**Subject:** FW: Mr. Bromley's remarks

-----Original Message-----

From:Carolynn Kobelka [mailto:carolynnkobelka@live.ca]

Sent: Sun 11/12/2011 15:24

To: Michael Nadli; Robert Bouchard; Robert C McLeod; Jackson Lafferty; Daryl Dolynny; Tom Beaulieu; Wendy Bisaro; Jane Groenewegen; David Ramsay; Kevin Menicoche; Norman Yakeleya; Bob McLeod; Glen Abernethy; Alfred Moses; Frederick Blake; Jackie Jacobson; Michael Miltenberger; Robert Hawkins

Cc: Bob Bromley

Subject: Mr. Bromley's remarks

Mr. Premier and members of the Government of the Northwest Territories:

Don't shoot the messenger.

We, the people of the developed and developing worlds, are responsible for the rapidly changing climate of Earth, and the sooner we accept that responsibility, the better. In Mr. Bromley, we have a person who is willing to take leadership on this important issue when others are shirking theirs. There will be unpopular and uncomfortable political decisions to be made in the future in order to reverse this desperate situation. I urge you to act responsibly in any matters that promote returning our environment to a healthy state.

People are dying due to climate change-related drought and famine. People are dying in climate change-related storms. Ask those who are losing their homes, their loved ones and their own lives to climate change-related disasters if they think our inaction doesn't constitute a crime against them. What amounts to inconvenience for us is life-altering for people in other parts of the world. It is unethical in the extreme to ignore it.

I urge you not to overreact to Mr. Bromley's concerned and well-intentioned remarks, however unpopular and uncomfortable they may be to you. Apparently, the members of the Legislative Assembly needed to be shaken up with regard to some of its environmental policies, and Mr. Bromley has succeeded in that. Don't overreact to "an inconvenient truth," as other environmental leaders have said before him. I repeat: Don't shoot the messenger.

Please do the responsible thing, and act to protect our environment in whatever ways you, as our government, are able.

Respectfully,

Carolynn Kobelka

Citizen of the NWT for 35 very interesting years

## Bob Bromley

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**From:** Andrew Robinson <andrew.robinson.73@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 3:44 PM  
**To:** Jackie Jacobson  
**Cc:** Tim Mercer  
**Subject:** Recent comments on Climate Change

Dear Mr. Speaker,

I've been reading about the debate on climate change in the legislature.

It sounds to me like it is a healthy debate - these issues are very important and need to be discussed.

The last 8 years of my professional life have been focused on northern climate change policy, so I think I know a little bit about this subject. May I offer my opinion?

When future northern generations look back at what we did for them - climate change will be the issue that they will look at the most. Some will look at the records of the GNWT and say "did anyone know that what they were doing to us?". The record will show that we did know - and that some people did speak out.

The GNWT has been studying what to do about climate change for almost 20 years and the people that work there know the issue very well. But the current GNWT greenhouse gas strategy is one of the weakest policies in the whole world. Other parts of the world have been coming up with innovative ways of working together to deal with climate change, but current GNWT policy ignores them. Something is clearly wrong.

I am sure that future generations will look at the record and agree with Mr. Bromley.

Regards,

Andrew Robinson

PS - To put it another way - when a house is on fire and you are trying to wake the people up - to save them and their kids - hopefully, they thank you and you all get to work on putting out the fire ... they shouldn't start by complaining about the language that was used to wake them up!

## Bob Bromley

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**From:** Nancy Vail <nancyvail@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 10:08 PM  
**To:** Bob Bromley  
**Subject:** Stand on environmental policies

Hi Bob;

Even though I am not in the territories right now, I wanted to add my voice to those who would approve of your comments about taking tough stands on environmental policies and could amount to crimes against humanity. I, like many others, I'm sure...would completely agree with that statement. Glad you took a tough stand.

## Bob Bromley

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**From:** Ron Hart <ron.hart@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 1:12 PM  
**To:** Bob Bromley  
**Subject:** re your statement on climate change

The failure to curb greenhouse gas emissions is indeed a crime against humanity. Mr. Miltenberger's reaction is simply an attempt to deflect your criticism from a discussion of the consequences of his government's policies.

Congratulations! Keep putting their feet to the fire!

## Bob Bromley

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**From:** Andre Salesses <s.andre1000@yahoo.ca>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 4:30 PM  
**To:** Bob Bromley  
**Subject:** □  
No apologies

Mr. Bromley, I am a middle aged man from northern Ontario that has great concern for the future of our young Canadians whom will have to clean up after the "Harper regime". You are absolutely right with your response to the so called Harper government and their ignorance toward greenhouse gasses . It is an absolute and complete ploy to line their pockets and the pockets of the rich with total disregard toward humanity. It is not an exaggeration to say that these are indeed crimes against humanity for the future generation. I stand by you 110% for not apologizing and believe you have every right to makes these comments in regard to these injustices. Good on you Mr.Bromley. I'd love to shake your hand and say thank you for the many that are never heard .

December 10, 2011

Hon. Jackie Jacobson,  
Speaker,  
Legislative Assembly of the NWT,  
Yellowknife, NWT

Dear Mr. Jacobson:

**Re: Bob Bromley, MLA Weledeh**

Bob Bromley represents me in the Legislative Assembly of the NWT. I appreciate the integrity, respectfulness, commitment, and intelligence of his representation. He is one among too few who uphold long traditions of servant leadership and the principle of stewardship. He works hard to ensure the well-being of northerners today and in the future. In some quarters, we might describe him as an Elder.

If northern people respect the principle of stewardship for seven generations to come as is our tradition, Mr. Bromley is correct to be concerned for the future and to voice these concerns. It is unfortunate that Mr. Bromley's choice of words to express these concerns caused offence in the Legislative Assembly. Perhaps Mr. Bromley's strong commitment to the principle of stewardship led him to reason that equally strong words were needed so others would also stand up for this principle. Perhaps Mr. Bromley reasoned that the best way to draw attention to the realities of climate change and our role in it, was to bring forth strong words and images similar to those used at the recent climate change conference in Durban. Whatever the reason, Mr. Bromley unfortunately caused offense. But he did do his job.

We elect our MLAs to represent us. Mr. Bromley is an able representative and I thank him for his bold words to express our concerns about our future. Rather than being offended, I would greatly appreciate more members of the Legislative Assembly showing greater passion and commitment to ensuring our well-being and a future for generations to come.



Lois Little  
Weledeh Constituent,  
Box 1866, Yellowknife, NT XIA 2P4

CC Tim Mercer, Clerk, Legislative Assembly  
NWT MLAs



**Craig Yeo**

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**Subject:** FW: Bob Bromley's statement on climate justice is NOT out of order

**From:** Shauna Morgan [mailto:shauna.yk@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2011 10:05 AM

**To:** Michael Miltenberger; Jackie Jacobson

**Cc:** Wendy Bisaro; Glen Abernethy; Jane Groenewegen; Robert C McLeod; David Ramsay; Jackson Lafferty; Kevin Menicoche; Bob McLeod; Norman Yakeleya; Tom Beaulieu; Bob Bromley; Robert Hawkins; Michael Nadli; Robert Bouchard; Alfred Moses; Frederick Blake; Daryl Dolynny

**Subject:** Bob Bromley's statement on climate justice is NOT out of order

Dear Mr. Jacobson and Mr. Miltenberger,

I support Bob Bromley's statement that allowing the NWT's carbon emissions to continue to rise constitutes a crime against humanity. I am glad that Bob Bromley has used such strong language to bring this to the Assembly's attention, and I am surprised that members have felt the need to spend so much time talking about how hurt or offended they feel, instead of responding to the substance of this very serious issue.

The science is clear about the consequences of continued global warming - both to our environment and to billions of people around the world, especially those who are living on the margins, in areas vulnerable to floods, desertification, storms, and famine.

The GNWT has made some positive steps with regard to renewable energy projects and energy-saving initiatives, but we can do so much more. We have the means, it just requires us to choose to make reducing emissions a real priority. To choose NOT to make emissions reduction a priority means being complicit in a global crime against humanity.

If you would like to discuss how emissions reductions could be accomplished, there are many, many citizens in the NWT, including myself, who would be happy to meet with you to suggest better choices that our government could make, NOW.

Respectfully,

Shauna Morgan  
Yellowknife, NT

## Bob Bromley

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**From:** Ben McDonald <benmcdonald@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 1:02 PM  
**To:** Bob Bromley  
**Subject:** Crimes against humanity

Bob:

Stand strong on your position (unless the Speaker says you crossed the line). I think it's time we faced the international reality of our policies.

Ben

## Bob Bromley

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**From:** David Malcolm <david.malcolm@mcri.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 10:32 AM  
**To:** Bob Bromley  
**Cc:** 'David Malcolm'  
**Subject:** Definition of "crimes against humanity"  
**Attachments:** Doc6.docx

Hi Bob,

Please see attached. Inaction on climate change mitigation by Canada and the US is indeed a widespread attack against the civilian population of the planet, with full knowledge and planned knowledge of the attack, in my opinion.

If there is anything I can do to assist you in your CC mitigation/adaptation efforts let me know.

David

## Bob Bromley

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**From:** tasha stephenson <tashastep@yahoo.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 9:53 PM  
**To:** Michael Miltenberger; Bob McLeod  
**Cc:** Bob Bromley; Jackie Jacobson; Glen Abernethy; Wendy Bisaro; Jackson Lafferty; Norman Yakeleya; David Ramsay; Robert Hawkins; Kevin Menicoche; Michael Nadli; Frederick Blake; Alfred Moses; Jane Groenewegen; Daryl Dolynny; Robert C McLeod; tom\_beaulieu@gov.ntca; Robert Bouchard  
**Subject:** I support Bob Bromley

Mr. Miltenberger, Mr. McLeod and Members of the Legislative Assembly,

It has come to my attention that MLA Bob Bromley is being censured for his comments about government inaction on climate change. It seems the other MLAs also lack a full comprehension of the seriousness of the climate change crisis we have been hurtling towards. If any of you have watched the film "The Age of Stupid" you would perhaps have a better grasp of this. If any of us were to have the opportunity to look back from the future at our actions - and inaction - today, we could only say "What were they thinking? They knew better, they had all the information, yet still they chose to be blind."

There is no lack of principled, sound, multi-disciplinary information to back up the things Mr. Bromley is trying to tell you all. From international scientists' coalitions to aboriginal groups to world-renowned economists - these are not crackpots, nor is Bob Bromley!

In everything Mr. Bromley has said and done in the Assembly over the past years, he has shown a conscientious dedication to the long-term best interests of the NWT - both the people and the land. I fully support Bob Bromley. Rather than slapping his wrist, you should be grasping his hand and joining him!

Sincerely,  
Tasha Stephenson  
Yellowknife Centre

## Bob Bromley

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**From:** Blanche Shahbaghlian <oceanheart1@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 2:04 PM  
**To:** Bob Bromley  
**Subject:** Hello from Blanche

Hello Bob,

I have been thinking of you since listening to the radio this week (the apology thing). I 'get' what you are saying and the template it comes from. I understand the commotion around it, there are other templates at play. I have been thinking of the words of Brian Swimme, "The universe shivers with wonder in the depths of the human ... The cosmos is the same: humans can house the tremendous beauty of the earth, of life, of the universe." (The Universe is a Green Dragon). In fact, all of us participate in genocide of this earth (of ourselves) every day. I think that each time I hit a ptarmigan or go the easy route and use plastic etc. I want you to know that I am thinking of you and hope that you are well. Let me know if I can help in any way. XX to you and Marianne, Blanche

## Bob Bromley

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**From:** Arlene Hache <arleneh10@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 17, 2011 5:26 PM  
**To:** Bob Bromley; Craig Yeo; Craig Yeo

Weledeh MLA Bob Bromley called it right when he accused the GNWT of "crimes against humanity" in regard to their Greenhouse Gas Strategy which concedes that carbon emissions will rise by 100% from 1990 levels by 2020.

The "gulf" between Bromley and the "shuffling MLAs" had little to do with his position on climate change and more to do with the common practice politicians employ in serving up platitudes that give the appearance of demanding change, but are designed to achieve no result. Colonization, and in particular survivors of forced relocations including residential school are intimately aware of the broader meaning of "crimes against humanity" that Bromley speaks too. Mainstream media and governments not so much, choosing to draw attention to the despots that live somewhere other than here and recasting atrocities perpetrated against First Nations and Inuit as actions taken in "their best interest" mistaken though they may have been.

There hasn't been a government in the last 40 years I have been around that hasn't "prudently" focused on the economy as their number one priority. It isn't that the direction is misguided, so much as it isn't balanced. That imbalance has wreaked havoc on the environment and continues to destroy the social fabric of our communities. Bromley's "rash pronouncement" was calm, measured, bold, courageous and honest. His leadership example may persuade the electorate that voting is worth it after all.

## Craig Yeo

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**From:** altnorth-nt-owner@povnet.org on behalf of Paul Falvo <falvo@yk.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 18, 2011 11:30 AM  
**To:** Altnorth-nt@povnet.org  
**Subject:** [altnorth-nt] letter to editor -- response to editorial on Bromley  
**Attachments:** message-header.txt; message-footer.txt

Bob Bromley is not wrong to be outraged. Nor is Justin Trudeau, for that matter. We should all be outraged. Yet, consciously or unconsciously, we're in denial about climate change. We deny what every major academy of science is telling us.

Of course we need jobs and a strong economy. But, we need to live too. Kyoto was weak and ineffective. But, it was a start. Where is the evidence that reducing GHG emissions will hurt the economy? On the contrary, there is economic opportunity in retooling to responsible technology.

It's not a question of trashing jobs and the economy -- but of saving them -- and us with them. Look at the consequences of not mitigating climate change.

We're Northerners. Let's not get our feelings hurt just because Bob Bromley said some mean words. Time for the GNWT, the Harper Government -- and all of us -- to get a thicker skin, and do what we have to do. If we don't change direction, we'll get where we're headed.

Paul Falvo  
Yellowknife

## Bob Bromley

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**Subject:** FW: Climate change concern letter

**From:** Nimisha Bastedo [mailto:nbastedo@coa.edu]

**Sent:** Monday, January 02, 2012 11:53 AM

**To:** Bob Bromley

**Subject:** Climate change concern letter

Aloha Bob!

Happy New year! I hope you and Marianne are having a great holiday.

This a letter a started drafting when I first heard about the whole crimes against humanity issue. I guess then christmas came along and I didn't know how to go forward with it. Here it is now, so you can add it to your pile of support letters. I hope it makes some sense at least.

Take care,

Nimisha

Honorable members of the Legislative Assembly,

As a young Northerner, I am deeply concerned by the current path our legislature is taking with respect to climate change. It has been embarrassing to watch Canada's counter-productiveness in the recent the international climate negotiations, during these times where positive leadership in this matter is needed the most. My disappointment in our federal government has prompted me to turn my hopes even closer to home, to you, my Territorial government.

Immediate action against climate change is not only necessary, it is common sense. In the North, we've already been seeing the devastating effects of melting permafrost and sea ice. Around the world we see floods, droughts, melting glaciers and rising sea-levels. No one can deny that the dangerous amount of greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere has already caused millions of deaths, and forced a change in lifestyle for millions more. But we all know this. We know that if there is to be any hope in protecting humanity and the Earth's natural wonders from even more devastating impacts of climate change, we need to drastically reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. So why not do this?

A Greenhouse Gas Strategy that allows for almost 100% increase in emissions by 2020 goes completely against what is common sense. Following through with this strategy would indeed be a radical and destructive action. I hope that other members will follow Bob Bromely's lead, and redefine the Strategy so that it takes the issue of climate change seriously.

I call on the GNWT to be a leader in making real change happen. I have high hopes that we, the North, can be the example, and get Canada back on the right track- the only rational track that gives hope to my generation and all the generations to follow.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our future.

## Craig Yeo

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**From:** Robert Bromley <robertgbromley@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 17, 2011 12:17 PM  
**To:** Craig Yeo; Bob Bromley  
**Subject:** Fwd: Bob Bromley's statement of crime against humanity

One more for the file, b

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Christopher O'Brien <chrisnt@mac.com>  
**Date:** Thu, Dec 15, 2011 at 11:07 AM  
**Subject:** Bob Bromley's statement of crime against humanity  
**To:** jackie\_jacobson@gov.nt.ca, glen\_abernethy@gov.nt.ca, wendy\_bisaro@gov.nt.ca, jackson\_lafferty@gov.nt.ca, norman\_yakeleya@gov.nt.ca, bob\_mcLeod@gov.nt.ca, michael\_miltenberger@gov.nt.ca, david\_ramsay@gov.nt.ca, robert\_hawkins@gov.nt.ca, kevin\_menicoche@gov.nt.ca, michael\_nadli@gov.nt.ca, frederick\_blake@gov.nt.ca, alfred\_moses@gov.nt.ca, jane\_groenewegen@gov.nt.ca, daryl\_dolynny@gov.nt.ca, robert\_c\_mcLeod@gov.nt.ca, tom\_beaulieu@gov.nt.ca, robert\_bouchard@gov.nt.ca  
**Cc:** Robert Bromley <bbromley@wholearctic.ca>, Northern News Services <nnsi@nnsi.com>

Dear Members of the Legislative Assembly,

I would like to comment on Bob Bromley's recent statement in the Legislative Assembly that the GNWT following through on its existing greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction policy would constitute a crime against humanity.

There is no doubt that if climate scientists' truly fearful scenarios about the future actually come to pass, the present lack of sufficient action by most of the world's governments (including the GNWT) to lower GHG emissions will certainly be considered by future generations to have been a crime against humanity.

The NWT GHG Strategy states that "...targets will allow us to demonstrate to the international community we are serious about this issue and prepared to make our contribution to reducing the future impacts of a warming climate." However, the NWT's stated target of 66 percent above 2005 levels (100% above 1990 levels) by 2020 makes even the federal government's underwhelming target of 17% below 2005 levels by 2020 look good by comparison, so surely it will be hard for the international community to believe that the NWT is taking the threat of climate change seriously.

Compare this to Denmark which has set a target of 40% below 1990 levels by 2020! In addition, the Danish government aims to abolish fossil fuel for energy generation by 2035, and by 2050 Denmark is to be completely fossil-free, including the transportation sector.

The GNWT's excuses for its lack of greater action are 1) that the only way to maintain a healthy NWT economy is through increased levels of fossil-fueled non-renewable resource development, and 2) the NWT accounts for less than 0.2 percent of Canada's total annual GHG emissions. The former seems to be set in stone as if there are no alternatives, while the latter is an excuse that any jurisdiction in the world can use to avoid sufficient action.

Northerners are experiencing greater impacts from climate change than anywhere else on Earth, so I find it ironic that, rather than trying to set a good example to the world, the GNWT is taking such a relatively passive, conventional approach to reducing its GHG emissions.

Will future generations judge this government as having been more concerned about its own economic development than the protection of the biosphere on which all Earthly life depends? Will future generations look back on the GNWT as having been involved in a crime against humanity? Time will certainly tell.

Yours sincerely,  
Chris O'Brien

## **Bob Bromley**

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**From:** Ron Hart <ron.hart@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 10, 2011 1:12 PM  
**To:** Bob Bromley  
**Subject:** re your statement on climate change

The failure to curb greenhouse gas emissions is indeed a crime against humanity. Mr. Miltenberger's reaction is simply an attempt to deflect your criticism from a discussion of the consequences of his government's policies.

Congratulations! Keep putting their feet to the fire!