

## **Young Leaders Summit on Climate Change**

I want to congratulate all the young leaders for being involved in this very important summit. The decisions that are made today on our climate and the environment are critical for your future and will affect each of you longer than any of us.

I certainly congratulate the Arctic Athabaskan Council, the Gwich'in Council International, Climate Action Network Canada, Pembina Institute, and Ecology North for getting youth involved in this current critical issue.

Many of us in the north have been talking for years of the dramatic changes climate is having on our homeland. This change is faster and greater here than anywhere else on earth. Southerners need to get this message which is another reason this Summit is so important.

I really look forward to receiving your final statement that you will create on August 20<sup>th</sup>, and will certainly pass that message on to other parliamentarians in Ottawa. I also look forward to meeting some of you in Whitehorse to hear first hand what this means to you.

Important decisions will be made this year in Copenhagen, so it is very important that you have gone to the lengthy efforts to enunciate the views of northern youth that are so important for all our futures.

I wish you all the best for a very successful Summit.

Hon. Larry Bagnell  
Member of Parliament for Yukon