

We The People
Program 358 October 7, 2019
We the People 358 Greta Thunberg



Good Day to you. In the western Canadian theatre of the War of 1812, control of Lake Erie was vital to the supply of British forces stationed along the Detroit River. The ensuing struggle between the United States and Britain for control of this lifeline led to one of the most remarkable engagements in naval history. During this period American Commander Oliver Hazard Perry reported back that... **"We have met the enemy and they are ours"**. During the 1960's in the comic strip Pogo this phrase morphed into....**"We have met the enemy and he is us"**. This phrase took on a significant meaning during the Climate Strike held a few weeks ago around the world. On that day millions of people and especially the young, stopped to demand governments everywhere take meaningful action to address climate change. Over 2,500 Australians gathered at Victoria Park Broadbeach joined another 350,000 Australians to call for immediate action. The climate science is in and the debate is over and slowly **we the people** are rising up demanding action before it's too late.

The major catalyst for this moving mountain of people has been one young 16 year old girl from Sweden. Her name is Greta Thunberg who directly told many world leaders to listen to the climate scientists. Greta Thunberg has appeared before the United States Senate climate task force and the UN Climate Summit and was acclaimed as a unifying voice for climate change action. This impossibly mature 16 year old said.... **"Please save your praise. We don't want it, don't invite us here to just tell us how inspiring we are without actually doing anything about it because it doesn't lead to anything"**. She is not only motivating to listen to but her pig tails and general appearance are magnetic in that while she is an ordinary young lady she is charismatic with a face almost devoid of expression, seldom smiling. Her blunt and matter of fact style and straight talk are her hallmarks. Greta Thunberg has spoken about her Asperger's syndrome diagnosis after she was criticised over the condition, saying it makes her "different" but that she considers it a "superpower". In my view we are witnessing a leader in the making at just 16 years of age. The Climate Strike around the world attracted millions of people from all walks of life including school students who stopped for the day to demand governments take action to address the impending climate change catastrophe and the future of mankind. Even in China small groups braved the communist party heavies, which in China represents real courage in the face of their corrupt oppressors. China is a massive and careless CO2 emitter.

If you are one of those people who don't believe climate change is largely a human creation, then for goodness sake read the science and maybe start at the NASA web site to get the facts. For those who are waiting to have the ultimate proof handed to them, you are ignoring the canary in the coal mine and your grand children's future. Most are aware that the use of fossil fuels creates the green house gas carbon dioxide, which acts as a blanket in the sky and traps heat. However the second most prevalent CO2 emitter is **concrete** manufacturing which yields carbon dioxide by the heating of calcium carbonate. Furthermore, the production of concrete requires large amounts of water and global production accounts for almost a tenth of worldwide industrial water use. So reflecting on my opening reference of....**"We have met the enemy and he is us"** clearly means it is all the citizens of earth who have dropped the ball. Greta Thunberg told the USA senate committee **"we are here to tell you change is coming whether you like it or not"**. Greta is right as well as courageous and more power to her and the young people today who will inherit the earth. The final word goes to 16 year old Greta Thunberg at the recent UN Climate change summit.

END

Until next time this is Kent Bayley