

# The Absence of Governance: Climate Change Policy in Canada & the United States

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# Areas of Agreement

- Severe threats to regions in both nations
- Robust and interactive science communities
- Approximately 30% of global emissions
- Early bi-national engagement (1988, 1992) and mutual *signing* of Kyoto
- Subsequent national disengagement
- Default through decentralization
- No bi-national institutional leader

# Points of Divergence

- Kyoto: Canada ratifies---and ignores (+26%)
- Kyoto: US spurns (+15%)
- Provinces: Maximum authority, minimal policy
- States: Moderate authority, major policy
  - Cap-and-trade
  - RPS and energy efficiency
  - Vehicle emission standards
  - Statewide reduction targets
  - Suing the feds

# American State Policy Development

Table 1. State Climate Policy Adoption and Greenhouse Gas Emission Trends

Levels of State Climate Policy Adoption*	<u>Emission Growth Trends (1990-2003)</u>	
	High (>15%)	Low (<15%)
High (2 or more policies)	<i>10 States</i> Arizona Minnesota Oregon	<i>12 States</i> California New Mexico Pennsylvania
Low (0-1 policies)	<i>22 States</i> Alabama Florida Texas	<i>7 States</i> Louisiana Michigan West Virginia

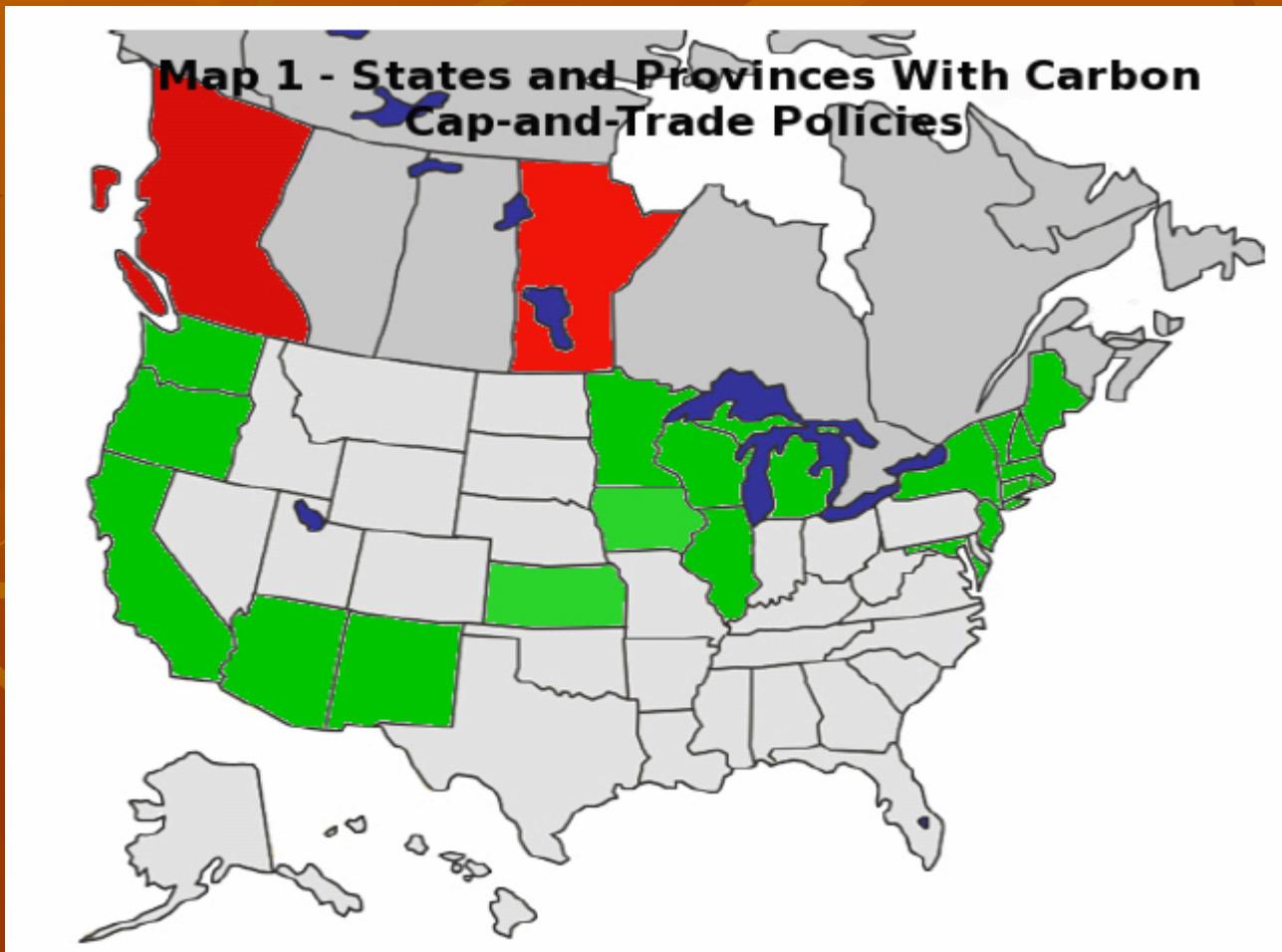
# Canadian Provincial Policy Development

Table 2. Provincial Climate Policy Adoption and Greenhouse Gas Emission Trends

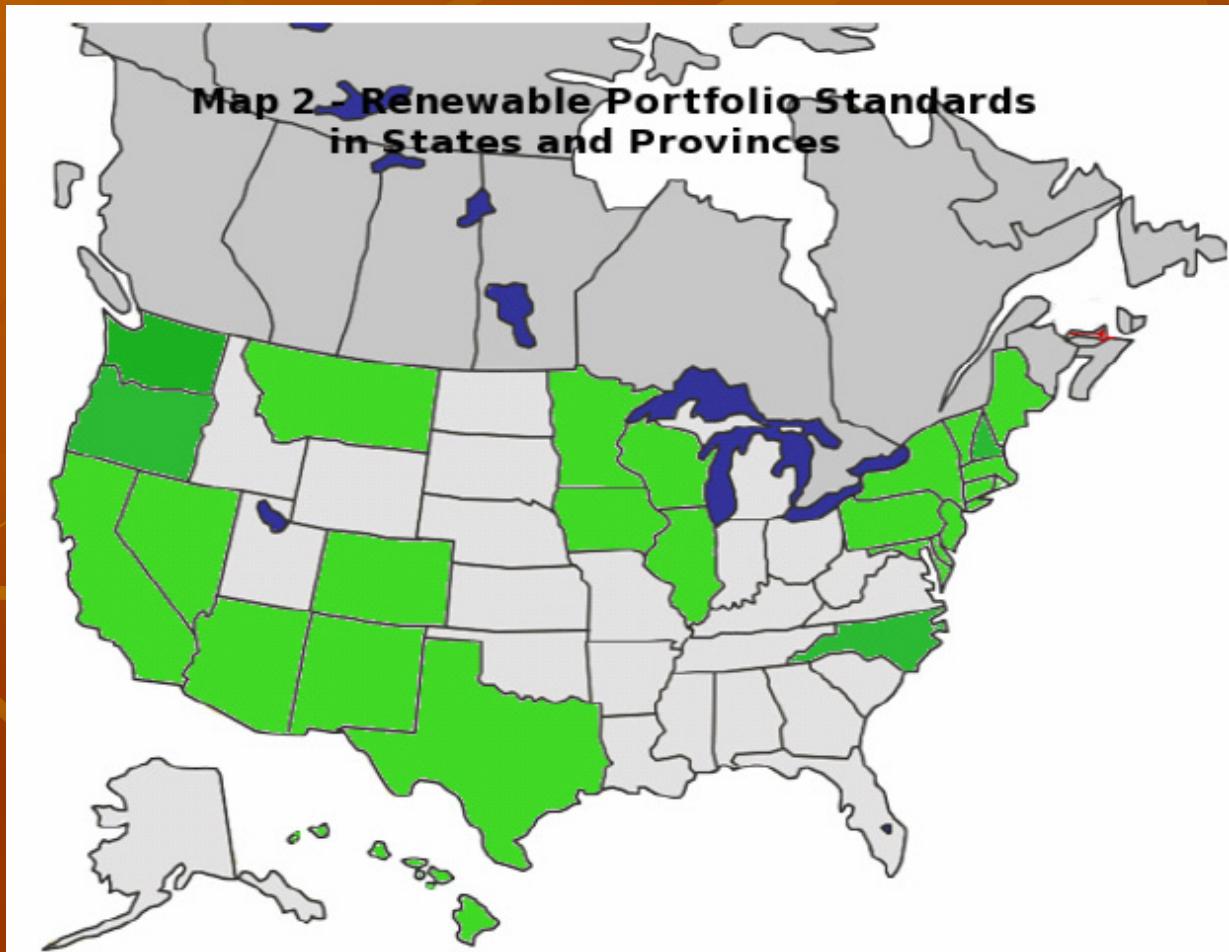
Levels of Province Climate Policy Adoption*	<u>Emission Growth Trends (1990-2003)</u>	
	High (>15%)	Low (<15%)
High (2 or more policies)	<i>1 Province</i> British Columbia	<i>0 Provinces</i>
Low (0-1 policies)	<i>7 Provinces</i> Alberta Ontario Prince Edward Island New Brunswick Newfoundland Nova Scotia Saskatchewan	<i>2 Provinces</i> Manitoba Quebec

\*Measures the adoption of the following policies within a state or province: Renewable Portfolio Standard, Carbon Tax, Renewable Fuel Standard, Carbon Cap-and-Trade, Statewide Emissions Target, Mandatory Emissions Reporting, Litigation against Federal Government, vehicle emission standards.

# Sub-federal Cap & Trade Policies



# Sub-federal RPSs



# Possible Points of Convergence

- Cross-border diffusion, Canada-style (BC, perhaps Manitoba and Quebec)
- Federal governments *scrutinize* cap & trade
- Provincial-State Partnerships emerge
  - BC/MB enter WCI
  - MB enters MRGGRA
  - Powering the Plains
  - ECP/NEG

# Case for Expanded Cooperation

- Intensive state policy development along Canadian border
- Energy interconnectedness
  - North-south movement
  - Limiting leakage and sinks
  - Renewable energy promotion or protection
    - RPS and related barriers
- North America as an international leader??

# Case Against Expanded Collaboration

- Lack of an institutional home or leader
- Limited cross-border policy discussions (Congressional hearings)
- Policy capacity gap (mezzo-level staffing)
- Different policy styles (regulation v. voluntarism v. cap & trade)
- Protection of ‘home-grown’ energy sources and technologies

# Where to Begin

- Lessons: RGGI, EU, Australia-New Zealand
- Expansion of regional experiments
- Toward a common framework
  - Common reporting metrics
  - Common definition of renewable energy and REC mechanisms
  - Interactive cap & trade provisions
- Thinking outside the box: New Bi-National or Continental Institution 100 years after IBWT that focuses upon climate?

