

Current Affairs and Magazine Show Winner:

CKCU-FM Ottawa, ON – Produced by Mark Brooks – “Forward on Climate! Earthgauge”

I am an independent broadcaster and journalist based in Ottawa, Canada. In addition to hosting and producing [Earthgauge Radio](#) on [CKCU FM](#), I have produced podcasts for [Alternatives Journal](#) and I have written for many publications including the Globe and Mail, the Ottawa Citizen, the Tyee, Briarpatch Magazine, the Common Sense Canadian, Carbon Markets North America, the Journal of Sustainability and others. Before CKCU I was a volunteer host/producer at [CKUT](#) radio in Montreal. In May 2013, I received a fellowship from the [Institute for Journalism and Natural Resources](#).



Your friendly host

## Earthgauge Radio

On air since November 2011, Earthgauge Radio is a weekly environmental magazine show that is hosted and produced by Mark Brooks, an environmental journalist and broadcaster. On Earthgauge, we bring you the best local, national and international environmental coverage, with a specific focus on Canadian stories and initiatives or organizations working in the Ottawa area.

For the Forward on Climate! special show, I travelled to Washington D.C. to cover the huge rally on February 17, 2013. This event featured speeches by Van Jones of [Rebuild the Dream](#), Bill McKibben of [350.org](#), Michael Brune, executive director of the [U.S. Sierra Club](#), and Jacquie Thomas of the [Saik'uz First Nation](#) in B.C., and interviews with Michael Brune and Canadian author/ activist [Naomi Klein](#). The original broadcast was 51 minutes in length but I have submitted an edited excerpt of the program (9:58) for your review.

Organized by 350.org, the Sierra Club and the [Hip Hop Caucus](#), the rally drew roughly 40,000-50,000 people who gathered on Washington's national mall to urge President Obama to follow through on the commitments he made during his inaugural address in January to respond to the climate change crisis. This included urging him to reject the controversial Keystone XL pipeline, which if constructed would carry tar sands crude from northern Alberta through the U.S. to refineries in the Gulf of Mexico. Organizers of the event called it the largest climate rally anywhere in history and, given the connection with Canada and the Alberta tar sands, it was an event that I felt needed to be covered from a uniquely Canadian perspective.

Every week, Earthgauge covers stories like Forward on Climate!, featuring individuals who are trying to do something about our serious environmental predicament. The issues I have covered on the show include climate change, oceans and fisheries, freshwater, biodiversity, agriculture and food, forests, environmental health, mining, tar sands, energy, urban sustainability, poverty and development, and much more. Guests on the program have included leading environmental

thinkers and activists such as David Suzuki, Elizabeth May, Naomi Klein, James Hansen, Bill McKibben, Steven Guilbeault, Tzeporah Berman, Vandana Shiva, Marjora Carter and Sheila Watt-Cloutier, among many others.

Of course, as I live in Ottawa, wherever possible I focus on local initiatives and organizations that provide our listeners with concrete ways they can get involved and take action. For example, on every show we feature a segment from volunteers at [Ecology Ottawa](#) who provide an update on local environmental events and campaigns.