Climate Change – Humanity's #1 Challenge 2023

Thomas A. Burns PhD.

Klamath Falls, Oregon

Change is the only constant in reality. At every scale from particles to galaxies, all material "things" and immaterial concentrations of energy arise, sustain for a shorter or longer period of time, and disintegrate. Humans as a species cannot avoid this "rule" because nothing is eternal except change itself.

In this context, all that humans can do as a complex organic species on the surface of tiny planet Earth is promote the conditions for their being able to sustain for the longest and most productive period possible. If they do so, they may be able to escape the confines of Earth and extend their survival period.

Currently the greatest threat to global human survival in the condition of complex society – which can support the escape possibility – is human caused, planetary scale climate change. All other human problems/challenges – of which there are a great many of great significance – are ultimately of less importance than sustaining the planetary ecology of Earth in a form that provides basic support for the human species.

The top priority of all humans and their societies should be supporting <u>at every</u> <u>level</u> the efforts to successfully address and resolve the potentially devastating threat of climate change. This means that all humans and their societies must:

- Recognize the import of the delayed impact phenomenon until resolved, the current level of climate change emissions will produce negative impacts in future years far beyond what current conditions reflect,
- 2) Identify and act to curtail at the personal level what they can do to lessen their contribution to the climate change problem,
- Refute the climate change deniers and expose and eliminate all of the special interests that benefit from the activities that generate the problem,
- 4) Support and elect representatives to government at all societal levels that will make addressing the climate change threat a top priority and actively seek legitimate solutions to the threat itself and all of its associated problems,
- 5) Commit to what collectively constitute real global level solutions,
- 6) Support the development of a strong form of global government [adequately reformed UN?] that can require all nations to cooperate and actively engage in rapidly addressing and resolving the climate change threat,
- 7) Require the nations that have benefited the most from the activities that have caused climate change and that have contributed the most to the climate change problem to bear the major costs of the needed changes,
- 8) Support in various ways the organizations that have the above goals.