

# FOR GROUP LEADERS

## How to plan for a chapter meeting that is just days after the election

### Post Election Considerations: GL Planning Addendum

This month's CCL meeting is unique — it's soon after the 2024 election, when people at your meetings may be feeling celebratory, despairing or anywhere in between. There is a powerful opportunity to host a meeting where people feel safe, seen and connected while helping us steer towards our focus of climate action regardless of the election outcome. We have prepared the following guidance in case it feels helpful for planning and facilitating a meeting that meets people where they are and provides action opportunities.

### Consider your own well-being

Before leading others, it might be helpful to consider your own feelings and reactions to the election. You might consider what you need in order to be ready to lead, whether that's confiding in a trusted loved one, an opportunity to sing and dance, a humorous political pundit, or a long walk outside. Consider if and how you might be able to show up in your meeting authentically while still providing a safe, nonpartisan space for your volunteers. CCL's [Resilience Hub](#) and [Resource Collection](#) provides a number of helpful resources.

### Ideas for how to start your meeting

To begin your meeting, you might read a statement of CCL values to especially ground your group in our non-partisan identity. See this [forum post for an example](#).

### Connection before Content Ideas

Consider facilitating an activity that can allow people to feel seen and heard, while avoiding dialogue or lengthy conversations that could easily turn partisan or stray to topics that have little to do with climate change. The following activities may accomplish this for your group:

Words and phrases: As humans, we are full of perspectives, feelings, needs and experiences. Sharing these with others can help people feel seen and heard. While conversation is one way to explore this, inviting people to share individual words or phrases (instead of sentences) is another way that can help us stay connected, while avoiding the tendency to veer into topics that may feel less inclusive or move away from our climate work.

- If you are on Zoom, you can invite people to share 2-3 words or phrases in the chat that represent their state of being today or in this moment.
- If you are in person, you might consider a 'popcorn' share where anyone who wants to share can, in no particular order. You could also use post-it notes and invite people to write their words on sticky notes and put them on the wall — and invite others to peruse them.

### Navigating potential challenges

If you run into any challenges during your meeting, you could use one of the following statements:

- *While we are each coming from our own place, with our own perspectives and potential challenges, let's remember that we are here to work together in community on climate solutions.*
- *I appreciate where you are coming from, and, if you would like, we can chat afterwards, but for now, let's move on with the agenda and circle back to this after the meeting. Thank you.*

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## How to use this November Action Sheet

CCL volunteers gather each month locally in groups to do four things: [Learn, Celebrate, Practice and Act](#).

### Information to share with your volunteers:

1. Post-election reaction resources are at [CCL's Resilience Hub](#) and [Resilience Resources Collection](#)
2. Here's Brett's post in the GL Forum on [Post-Election Chapter Meetings and CCL Plans/Support](#)
3. Here's an insightful video on [how to use Congress.gov](#) created by CCL Liaison Coordinator Mindy Ahler
4. [Videos from CCL's Inclusion Conference](#) are available
5. A recording of the Oct 17 training [Opportunities for a Carbon pricing in the next Congress](#) is available
6. Citizens' Climate Radio [Episode 99](#) is about the bipartisan Energy Permitting Reform Act
7. Policy-specific actions are pinned at the top of these four CCL Community sitewide forums: [Carbon Pricing](#), [Clean Energy Permitting](#), [Healthy Forests](#), [Building Electrification and Efficiency](#)

Our Fall Virtual Conference, December 6-7, will help your chapter to focus your climate work in the new post-election political reality. Encourage your volunteers to register and plan a watch party so everyone can enjoy the Fall Virtual Conference together on December 7. There is no cost to attend. See our **Position for progress with the current and new Congress** action below for details and how your volunteers, and especially your lobby team members, can train for online lobbying the week of December 9-12.

Many of your friends and family members are proud of your commitment to climate solutions and will want to support CCL, so **Start organizing now for our Year-End Fundraiser**. You might like to ask some of your seasoned volunteers, especially those who've lobbied Congress in D.C., to speak at your Fall Conference watch party to add a fundraising element. Donations made in November count toward our end-of-year fundraiser, which [kicks off officially on Giving Tuesday, December 3](#).

### Sample meeting agenda (suggested time is 50-75 minutes)

1. To begin your meeting, you could quickly reflect on CCL values and volunteers' post-election sentiments as outlined on the previous page.
2. Celebrate volunteer successes. Invite folks to share their October actions! - *5 mins*
3. Invite your volunteers to start filling out your copy of the [monthly sign-up sheet](#).
4. If attendees participated in our national "Action Hour" call, invite them to share what action they took. Use breakout rooms if you have a big group and you're on Zoom. - *5-10 mins*
5. Start the two main actions and two bonus actions below and make a plan to finish them. - *5-10 mins each*
6. Do the Communication Skills Exercise. - *10 mins*
7. Round-robin share: What group or personal action will you take during the next month? - *5-10 mins*
8. Ask someone to log your meeting and attendees in the [Action Tracker](#) — it helps give CCL accurate information about chapter engagement.