



# Lectures on Quantum Phenomena

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Next talk will be:

Wednesday, March 16th, 2016, 7:30 pm — Room 200, Hennings Building  
6224 Agricultural Road, University of British Columbia

## **Climate commitments: It's not about targets anymore.**

**Right Honourable Elizabeth May**

Member of Parliament for Saanich—Gulf Islands

Leader of the Green Party of Canada

The recent Paris Agreement, which has the goal of avoiding a 1.5 degrees C rise in global temperature, means the governments of the 195 nations of the world agree that we are going to stop relying on fossil fuels for energy. If there is any room for debate, it is now about the time table. But the commitment to 1.5 degrees means only one thing: if we are serious about that goal, we must get off fossil fuels within a decade or two, with no procrastination or back-sliding. This talk will discuss what this will mean, for all of us.



# Gravitational Radiation is finally detected

**William G. Unruh**  
University of British Columbia

In Sept 2015 the 2 LIGO observatories observed gravitational waves emitted during the inspiral and collision of two black holes, each of roughly 30 solar mass, occurring 1.3 billion yrs ago at a distance of 1.3 billion light years. The energy output during this event was colossal, roughly equivalent to that

of all stars in the universe during the same period. My talk will discuss this event, explaining what gravitational radiation is, how it is formed, and how it was measured by LIGO. The talk is for the general public - no knowledge of gravity, or of lasers, is assumed.

