



To: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada

October 13th, 2021

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

Climate Action Network Canada - Réseau action climat Canada would like to congratulate you on your reelection.

On September 20th, a majority of 60 percent of voters in Canada cast ballots for parties promising to increase action and ambition on climate change. This is no surprise as communities from coast to coast to coast are still recovering from a summer of catastrophic climate impacts. Canada has recently experienced some of the hottest temperatures in its recorded history; wildfires are burning forests to a crisp and threatening communities in British Columbia and Ontario. Meanwhile, the Arctic is warming at three times the global average.

The latest IPCC report was a red alert for our planet. The science is clear: if we want to protect lives, livelihoods and ecosystems by limiting warming to 1.5°C, we must accelerate our efforts to ditch fossil fuels and pivot towards low-carbon energy sources. In just a few weeks, the newly formed Canadian government will participate in its first large multilateral summit since the election: COP26 in Glasgow. The world will be watching and asking whether Canada will follow through on its climate commitments and bridge the credibility gap it faces as the only G7 country whose emissions have risen since signing the Paris Agreement.

The next few months will be crucial for humanity's fight to limit warming to 1.5°C, and Canada needs to play a role that reflects its fair share of that effort. That's why we call upon you, Prime Minister, to deliver on an agenda that will transform our economy and society to make them safer, fairer, more caring and more resilient for all - and this for generations to come.

We ask you to immediately deliver the climate action commitments you promised to Canadians, and to go further to do what's necessary to protect our people and the planet. We call on you and your team to consider the following as you develop your priorities for the coming session of Parliament. We hope to see these commitments reflected in the Speech from the Throne and the mandate letters for your Ministers:

On Canada's obligation to respect of Indigenous Rights:

- Fully implement the 94 calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- Fully and sincerely implement UNDRIP, paying special attention to Articles 3, 18, 19, and 25, including a promise to require full free, prior, and informed consent for any and all new energy projects, regardless of jurisdiction or degree to which a project is already complete.

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- Commit to implementing in full the Assembly of First Nations Joint Committee on Climate Action recommendations, published in their 2020 annual report.

On an emergency response to the climate crisis:

- By COP26, announce the establishment of decreasing 5-year caps on greenhouse gas emissions from the oil and gas sector that ensure no expansion of the sector and that full life-cycle emissions from the sector align with Canada’s domestic and international climate commitments.
- By COP26, announce the development of a regulated sales requirement that 100% of new light duty vehicle sales be zero emissions vehicles by 2035 at the latest.
- By COP26, announce an ambitious timeline and process for the development of a Clean Electricity Standard that will get Canada to a 100% clean grid by 2035.
- By the end of March 2022, update and lead the implementation of Canada’s climate plan as required by the *Net Zero Emissions Accountability Act*. The plan should include a clear indication of both federal and provincial/territorial contributions to meeting Canada’s 2030 emissions reduction target and detailed modelling of expected contributions from each measure, as well as sectoral breakdowns.
- Put in place 5-year interval carbon budgets on advice from the Net-Zero Advisory Body.
- Swiftly require oil and gas companies to reduce methane emissions by at least 75% below 2012 levels by 2030.
- Immediately develop a plan to eliminate all fossil fuel subsidies, financial supports and public financing of the fossil fuel sector, including from Crown corporations and spending on the TransMountain pipeline and expansion project.
- As soon as possible, implement a coal export ban for all thermal coal being shipped out of Canadian ports, which fully bans all thermal coal exports by 2023.
- Mandate that the Canadian Energy Regulator model scenarios that are compliant with Canada’s international climate obligations to limit global warming below 1.5°C and informed by the International Energy Agency’s World Energy Outlook “Net Zero Emissions by 2050 Scenario.”



- As soon as possible, finalize and implement a rigorous climate lens to align all government programs, policies and investments with Canada's climate goals.
- Require climate-related financial disclosures and the development of Paris-aligned climate change plans for federally regulated institutions, which includes financial institutions, pension funds, and government agencies.
- Introduce legislation that mandates financial institutions under federal jurisdiction to disclose climate risk to which their assets are exposed, the extent of their investments in fossil fuels, and plans to ensure that their activities are 1.5°C-compliant, and mandates the Superintendent of Financial Institutions to subject banks to climate-related financial stress tests.
- Develop a new and credible plan to reverse nature loss and meet Canada's international commitments, including to protect 30% of lands, freshwater, and oceans by 2030.
- Commit to an overall spending target of at least 2% of GDP on climate investments and actions.
- Commit to communicating regularly to people in Canada about the climate emergency and what is needed from the government, businesses, and the public.
- Demand and implement a national soil health strategy, with regional emphases, to prevent soil degradation and help Canadian farmers become more resilient in the face of the climate crisis.

On leaving no one behind:

- Legislate the development of a national strategy to redress environmental racism, building on last Parliament's Bill C-230.
- Immediately resume and improve the consultation process on just transition launched in August 2021.
- Implement a Working Group on Just Transition responsible for establishing the process, mechanisms, tools, funding and indicators for a Just Transition and creating an appropriate Federal-Provincial funding mechanism for the transition.
- Complete, implement and fund a national climate adaptation strategy that empowers regional, municipal, and Indigenous governments to design adaptation plans that meet their needs and protect people from acute climate harms. Such a strategy must recognize the outsized impacts on Indigenous Peoples and other vulnerable communities.



On playing a role on the international stage that reflects Canada's global responsibility :

- At COP26, commit to align Canada's climate plans with a 1.5°C compatible future - away from further expansion and production of fossil fuels - by revising Canada's Nationally Determined Contribution to the UNFCCC no later than 2023 for its domestic emissions reductions target to reflect Canada's fair share of the global effort to limit warming to 1.5°C, which is equivalent to at least 60% GHG emissions reduction below 2005 levels.
- Mobilize Canada's fair share of the USD 100 billion commitment, or the equivalent of at least 4.75 CAD annually for international climate finance until 2025.
- Commit to ensuring that 50% of climate finance goes to adaptation.
- Actively support the text-based negotiations of the waiver on intellectual property and patents being proposed at the WTO by South Africa and India to rapidly scale up vaccine manufacturing and production.

Prime Minister Trudeau, every decision you take in the next few months will have an impact on Canada's emissions trajectory during this decade of utmost importance for climate action. Climate action network Canada - Réseau action climat Canada and our members and allies in the Canadian climate community are counting on you and other parties to deliver this ambitious and rigorous agenda.

Sincerely,

Shannon Franssen

Executive Director,
Climate action network Canada - Réseau action climat Canada

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