
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A CANADIAN ENERGY STRATEGY



CONTEXT

This summer, Canada's First Ministers will meet to discuss the shape and scope of an energy strategy for Canada. Such a plan could establish a national vision for our energy future, and include policy priorities to make the vision a reality.

We believe Canada can and must leverage the resource-based economy it has today to create the clean-energy economy that its citizens and customers want and need tomorrow. As a nation, we are well positioned to do so. Canada has a strong entrepreneurial spirit, a history of innovation, a wealth of renewable resources including wind, solar, biomass, hydropower and geothermal, a stable financial system, an established clean-tech sector, and excellent research-oriented universities. Further, we have an international reputation as a caring and just society.

Canada also has globally significant oil and gas reserves. Today, our nation's fossil-fuel sector employs hundreds of thousands, and helps fund schools, hospitals, and more, across the country. These fuels will likely remain at the centre of our energy system for some years to come. However, it is now clear that the traditional energy sector has an unbeatable opportunity to help ensure the nation competes and

prosper in a world that, through innovation and regulation, will have sharply reduced its appetite for these carbon-based energy commodities.

Canada needs to move these low-carbon, clean-energy opportunities forward with supportive policies, starting today. A bold new Canadian energy strategy could accelerate Canada's transition to an efficient low-carbon energy economy.

It could also be:

- The blueprint for how we can diversify and strengthen the economy for long-term sustainable jobs and prosperity;
- The plan that the Office of the Auditor General of Canada recently suggested we need to ensure Canada will meet its greenhouse gas reduction commitments;
- A path to resolve a number of divisive energy conflicts while recognizing the constitutional authorities of federal, provincial and aboriginal governments.

In recent months, a diverse coalition of businesses, environmental groups, labour organizations, faith leaders, and other civil-society interests has come together around a series of principles and objectives for a

Canadian energy strategy, outlined on the following page.

For additional background, please see the discussion paper, *Towards a Clean Energy Accord: How and Why a Canadian Energy Strategy Can Accelerate the Nation's Transition to a Low-Carbon Economy*, available at www.tidescanada.org/energy/accord.

CANADA SHOULD BET ON 21ST CENTURY ENERGY MODEL

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

We believe that Canada should bet on a 21st century energy model, and accelerate its transition to a clean and renewable energy future to remain competitive in a fast-changing world.

We believe our leaders should work with industry and civil society organizations to leverage the economy we have today to create the new energy economy we want and need tomorrow.

We believe that aboriginal and treaty rights of First Nations must be respected and that First Nations and other aboriginal leaders must be fully involved in the development of any Canadian energy strategy.

We recommend that provincial governments adopt the following principles and framework to ensure any such strategy is successful for current and future generations:

PRINCIPLES FOR A CANADIAN ENERGY STRATEGY

ENERGY SECURITY

Provide affordable, accessible, reliable, sustainable, and efficient energy services to citizens with minimal risk to future generations.

JOB AND PROSPERITY

Leverage Canada's considerable renewable and non-renewable resources to increase our share of the global market for low-carbon goods and services, spurring new jobs, investment, and innovation.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT

Reduce the impacts of climate change by lowering carbon emissions at a pace and at a scale recommended by Canadian and international climate scientists, as well as protect and restore air, land, and water resources by ensuring rigorous environmental assessments and setting hard limits on cumulative ecosystem impacts.

We believe any Canadian energy strategy must have a framework that prioritizes jobs and low-carbon prosperity, eliminates energy waste, unleashes new energy innovation, fosters more livable communities, moves the nation forward on alternative transportation, enables funding for the energy transition, and greens up our existing energy supply for current and future generations.

LIST OF ENDORSERS

INDUSTRY

Canadian Wind Energy Association
(represents 435+ companies and members)
Canadian Geothermal Energy Association
(represents 35+ companies and members)
Clean Energy BC
(represents 300+ companies and members)
Ontario Waterpower Association
(represents 150+ companies and members)
Westport Innovation
Aeolis Wind
Air Miles for Social Change
Anderson Greenplan
Big Green Island
BlueFuel
Borealis Geopower
Bullfrog Power
Chinook Power

Climate Smart Business
Dovetail Consulting
Exro Technologies Inc.
Green Living Enterprises
Julian Griggs & Associates
Junxion Strategy
Mind Innovations Group
Pulse Energy
Quantum Lighting
Saul Good Gift Co.
Scotian Windfields
Sea Breeze Power Corp
SEA Sustainability Now Consulting
Shift Delivery Co-op
Visible Strategies
Visual Carbon

LABOUR

Alberta Federation of Labour
Communications, Energy, and Paperworkers (CEP) Union
Canadian Office & Professional Employees (COPE) Union 378
Canadian Auto Workers' (CAW) Union

Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)
United Steelworkers
Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour

NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS

World Wildlife Federation Canada
Climate Action Network (CAN) (85+ organizations)
David Suzuki Foundation
Pembina Institute
Atlantic Canada Sustainable Energy Coalition
BlueGreen Canada
British Columbia Sustainable Energy Association
Citizens Climate Lobby
Canadian Associations of Physicians for the Environment
Conservation Council of New Brunswick
Ecojustice
EcoPEI
Energy Advocate
Environment Northeast

Environmental Defense
Équiterre
Fraserside Community Services Society
Friends of Wild Salmon
Georgia Straight Alliance
Margaree Environmental Association
The Natural Step Canada
Ontario Sustainable Energy Association
Projet Écosphère
Sierra Club of Canada
Sierra Club of Canada - BC Chapter
Sightline Institute
The Ivey Foundation
West Coast Environmental Law

GOVERNMENT (INCL. FIRST NATIONS)

Coastal First Nations
First Nations Energy and Mining Council
Union of Nova Scotia Indians

FINANCE

Chrysalix Mutual Funds
Investeco
North Growth Foundation
North Growth Management
Renewal2

ACADEMICS

Erica Frank, University of British Columbia, Faculty of Medicine, School of Population and Public Health
Danny Harvey, University of Toronto, Department of Geography
George Hoberg, University of British Columbia, Faculty of Forestry and Department of Political Science
David Kahane, University of Alberta, Department of Political Science
Mishka Lysack, University of Calgary, Faculty of Social Work
Robert McLeman, University of Ottawa, Department of Geography
David Neelands, University of Toronto, Trinity College
John Parkins, University of Alberta, Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology
John Robinson, University of British Columbia, Institute of Resources, Environment and Sustainability
Stephen Scharper, University of Toronto, Centre for the Environment and Department of Anthropology
Donald Spady, University of Alberta, School of Public Health
Andrew Weaver, University of Victoria, School of Earth and Ocean Sciences

FAITH LEADERS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Mark MacDonald, National Indigenous Anglican Bishop of Canada
Linda Nicholls, Bishop, Trent Durham, Anglican Church of Canada
Philip Poole, Bishop, York Credit Valley, Anglican Church of Canada
David Selzer, Bishop, Ottawa, Anglican Church of Canada
Mardi Tindall, Moderator, United Church of Canada
Canadian Council of Imams
Faith and the Common Good
Green Awakening Network (GAN)
KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives
Interfaith Coalition for Climate Justice
Noor Cultural Centre
The Palyul Foundation of Canada

INDIVIDUALS

Warren Brazier, Senior Associate, Chair, Energy & Natural Resources Practice Group, Clark Wilson LLP
Wade Davis, Explorer in Residence, National Geographic Society
Mel Hurtig, O.C., Canadian publisher and author
William Leiss, O.C., PhD, Scientist, Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada
Julia Levy, Former CEO, QLT Inc., Professor Emerita, UBC
Tom Pedersen, Director, Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions
Tom Rand, Advisor, Clean Tech, MaRS Discovery District
Chris Turner, Canadian author



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