

Power to Change: A new deal for climate action and good jobs



Dear friends,

It becomes more clear each day that the time for talk on climate change and economic inequality is over. It's time to act, and it's time to fight like our future depends on it, because it does.

A new deal for climate action and good jobs is the bold plan to build the future that we all want to give to our children. It's about opportunities for us now and security for generations to come. And it's about rejecting the dangerous direction we're heading – by building a brighter future, where no one is left behind.

I've thought a lot about what that future should look like. And I've talked to young people and families across the country about what they want to build for the next generation. From Montreal to Burnaby, Calgary to St. John's, the answer is always the same.

It's a future where families have good jobs and secure livelihoods – and where the move to a sustainable economy means more opportunity for workers, not less. It's a future where every child can play outdoors in the fresh air without choking on hazardous fumes or smoke. A future where Indigenous peoples have clean drinking water – and the peace of mind of knowing that their rights are honoured, not under threat. And a future where the rewards of our prosperity are given not to big polluters, but to the hard-working people who make this country work every day.

This is the future we all want. A Canada where every family can live and thrive, now and for generations to come.

But climate change threatens this vision – and all the things we value. The scientific consensus has been overwhelmingly clear for a long time. And now we live the consequences of climate change every day. Severe floods and ravaging wildfires are destroying communities and increasing costs for ordinary families. Rising sea levels threaten our coasts. Polluted air and unsafe drinking water hit the most vulnerable communities the hardest, deepening injustice and compounding decades of environmental discrimination. Rising temperatures and destroyed habitats threaten the plants and animals that support us all.

At the same time, Canadians are facing ever-increasing job insecurity, low wages, and the growing risk of personal bankruptcy. The economy we have now isn't working for a lot of people. No wonder people are worried about the future of their families and their communities.

For decades, Conservative and Liberal governments have not had the courage to do what is needed to secure our future. They've denied the existence of climate change, protected big polluters, and destroyed protections for our air and water. Justin Trudeau even bought a bitumen pipeline for a staggering \$4.5 billion.

Actions matter. Justin Trudeau cannot talk his way out of the climate crisis, and the Conservatives cannot drag us back to a time before climate change existed. The time for those parties' empty talk and endless delay is over, because if climate change is not stopped within the next decade, our children won't have the future that they deserve.

This is also not a time to leave people out. Without everyone having a seat at the table and achieving the benefits of a clean energy future – including Indigenous and working people – we won't get it right.

By creating good jobs and making all our communities healthier and more sustainable for the long term, Canada can be a leader in making life better for everyone as the world moves towards a carbon-neutral future.



Climate change and inequality are the biggest challenges of this generation, and it's not going to be simple. But Canadians have met similar complex challenges in the past by coming together with ingenuity and hard work. And if we do it right, we can create more opportunity in this. It can mean thousands of new jobs building a sustainable economy – one that is fairer and one that doesn't sacrifice our future, our health, our kids.

I am incredibly proud that Canada's New Democrats are the party with a vision and the plan to fight climate change – and help working families win.

New Democrats have always been leaders in fighting for our environment and families that need good jobs. In 2006, Jack Layton spearheaded the *Climate Change Accountability Act*, which Stephen Harper's Conservatives voted against. NDP governments across the country have also led the way in securing environmental rights, holding big polluters accountable, reducing carbon pollution, making life more affordable, and ensuring that workers aren't left behind in a changing economy.

Now, it's time to do even more. *A new deal for climate action and good jobs* is the most comprehensive environmental plan that the NDP has ever proposed. It is a bold plan that provides a clear path to a lasting, living economy that works better for all Canadians. And it's built on the values that guide New Democrats in everything we do.

- Creating good, local jobs and opportunity across the country – and ensuring that workers have access to the support and training they need, when they need it.
- Respect for Indigenous rights and implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- Guaranteeing benefits for local communities in all infrastructure projects.
- Supporting the right of every Canadian to live in a healthy environment.
- Making life more affordable and raising our standard of living.
- Setting Canada up to be globally competitive in the low carbon businesses of the future.
- Putting Canada on track to meet science-based greenhouse gas reduction targets.
- Helping our communities deal with the impacts of climate change and empowering them to put local low carbon solutions to work.
- Building the next generation of cutting-edge infrastructure across the country.
- Making our communities cleaner, healthier and more livable.

Canada is a great place to live. And it's up to us to make it a great home for our children and future generations, too. We can do that with this plan. Together, we can do what's right and do it now before it's too late.

Sincerely,



Jagmeet Singh, MP
Leader, Canada's New Democrats



URGENT ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE:

It's time for an ambitious, comprehensive plan to take urgent action on climate change, create jobs and strengthen our communities. Under the NDP climate plan, Canada will:

1. Adopt science-based GHG emissions reduction targets for 2030 that are in line with stabilizing the global temperature increase at 1.5 degrees Celsius – and be accountable for meeting them.
2. Create good jobs in all communities across the country – and provide support for workers who are impacted by the shift to a low carbon economy.
3. Respect Indigenous knowledge and uphold Indigenous rights to protect lands, waterways, and biodiversity.
4. Make all new buildings in Canada net-zero ready by 2030, and complete energy efficiency retrofits on all existing housing stock in Canada by 2050.
5. Get more zero-emissions vehicles on the road, electrify our transit fleets by 2030, and work towards fare-free transit with interested municipalities.
6. Eliminate fossil fuel subsidies immediately and get Canada powered by net carbon-free electricity by 2030.

MAKING LIFE BETTER FOR ALL CANADIANS:

Taking action on climate change with real solutions that make life better for all Canadians, create good jobs and make our communities sustainable for the long term. Together, we can:

1. Create at least 300,000 good jobs building the clean energy future in the next four years.
2. Save families \$900 or more per year on home energy costs with energy efficient upgrades.
3. Make public transit cleaner, more convenient and more affordable – even free!
4. Protect our communities from extreme weather events like floods and forest fires.
5. Make it easier to buy and charge a zero emissions vehicle, no matter where you go.

CREATING GOOD JOBS IN ALL COMMUNITIES:

Making major investments today will grow an economy that works better for more people and set us up for future where Canadians can count on good jobs for all regions. Our plan includes:

1. Access to training and education for the low carbon future.
2. Creating at least 300,000 good jobs in energy efficiency retrofits, affordable housing, renewable energy, infrastructure, and transit.
3. Building more zero emissions vehicles here at home.
4. Support for workers, families and communities so that the changing economy works for them.
5. Boosting clean tech research and manufacturing with Buy Canadian procurement.
6. Helping companies reduce emissions and keep jobs here in Canada.
7. Creating good, family-sustaining jobs building infrastructure in all regions of the country, while making sure communities are at the decision-making table and local businesses are involved.



PART 1: WORKING TOGETHER

Tackling climate change is going to take all of us, working together to meet the challenge. It's time to take a fundamentally different approach to decision-making – one that respects Indigenous rights, and integrates reconciliation, economic justice; and climate responsibility in order to build resilient communities with bright futures, from coast to coast to coast.

Reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and the **recognition** of inherent rights, title and treaty rights must be at the heart of our approach to addressing climate change. New Democrats recognize the unique knowledge and vital governance role that Indigenous people have, and continue to play, as the original peoples and stewards of their territories. We acknowledge that Indigenous communities are on the front lines dealing with the impacts of climate change every day, and that Indigenous peoples are best placed to protect cultural and biological diversity through control over their territory.

That's why First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples must be made **full and equal partners** in Canada's efforts to confront the climate crisis. We are

committed to the full implementation of the **United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples** and the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. This includes the right to self-determination and the need for free, prior and informed consent on any decisions affecting traditional territory and rights.

In addition to working nation-to-nation with affected communities, New Democrats will ensure that First Nations, Inuit and the Métis leadership have a **seat at high-level decision-making tables** to help direct climate change efforts in Canada.

Canada must immediately address the longstanding crisis that Indigenous communities face accessing basic services like clean water, safe housing, and education. In addition, First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples need to be partners in the development of **job creation, employment training, and infrastructure investments** that flow from federal efforts to address climate change, ensuring that they are implemented in ways that fit the needs and priorities of local communities. A New Democrat government will also provide support to protect Indigenous communities in the face of climate change emergencies like wildfires and floods.



PART 2: TAKING CLIMATE LEADERSHIP

The science is clear: globally, we have a decade to significantly reduce our emissions, or face catastrophic climate change impacts. Under Liberal and Conservative governments, progress has stalled and Canada is now considered a global laggard, not even on track to meet the modest targets we already have – let alone the stronger ones required to prevent dangerous climate change.

It's time for a roadmap to emissions reductions that puts our communities, and our planet, on the path to good health and sustainability.

The NDP will declare a climate emergency and put into law the requirement for the government to establish a plan to meet **ambitious, science-based GHG emissions reduction targets** that will help stabilize the global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius. We will revise Canada's 2030 target to make emissions reductions in line with what the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says is necessary to prevent catastrophic climate impacts.

Liberal and Conservative governments have set emissions reduction targets and then ignored them. Our plan will use the powers of the federal government to ensure that the provinces set and meet **interim emissions reduction targets** in the lead up to 2030 and 2050. We will also establish an independent Climate Accountability Office to do **regular audits** of progress towards our climate goals, with a budget to share information about the importance of climate action with Canadians.

We'll work with the provinces and territories to make Canada an innovation leader on **methane reduction** in such areas as real-time monitoring and leakage detection, ensuring that provincial methane regulations are genuinely equivalent with

the federal regulations, and increasing the ambition of those targets in the 2025-30 period.

Recognizing that putting a price on carbon is an important tool to drive GHG emission reductions at the source, we will continue **carbon pricing**, including rebates to households that fall under the federal backstop plan, while making it fairer and rolling back the breaks the Liberals have given to big polluters.

The federal government can also **model change**, by becoming a trail-blazer in energy efficiency, clean technologies, and renewable energy use. To that end, we'll adopt measures like moving the vehicle fleets of the federal government, including federal crown corporations such as Canada Post, to electric by 2025, choosing made-in-Canada vehicles wherever possible. We will also ensure that all federal buildings use renewable energy and are net carbon neutral by 2030, and adopt a carbon budgeting framework to plan for and track federal GHG emissions reductions. We'll also drive low carbon technology adoption with government procurement – leading by example and mandating Public Works and Government Services Canada to, as much as possible, procure from Canadian companies producing clean technology.

Canada must also step up and be a **global leader** in tackling climate change by doing more to help developing countries cope with the impacts of climate change, and working with partners in North America to advance GHG emissions reductions and protect biodiversity. Trade agreements must have high environmental standards to prevent the offshoring of pollution. We will make climate change a priority in our international diplomatic efforts, pushing other major economies like Russia, China, India, and the United States to do their part.

PART 3: CREATING GOOD, SECURE JOBS FOR ALL

The global climate is changing, and Canadian jobs will change too. Canadian workers have thrived through great economic transformations before – but what has changed is that successive Liberal and Conservative governments have left workers to navigate these shifts on their own. As a result, Canadians working in carbon-intensive industries are worried about a future with more precarious work, lower pay, and families forced to leave their home communities in search of jobs.

There was a time when federal governments were committed to making training, employment insurance benefits, retirement security, and meaningful transition plans available to all workers when industries faced challenges. But in recent years, we have seen Liberal and Conservative governments make these supports harder to get, and it's Canadian workers who are paying the price of their inaction.

We can do better. New Democrats believe that any climate change plan that leaves Canadian workers or regions behind is no plan at all. There are real solutions that **invest in good jobs in all communities** and rebuild local economies with meaningful, family-sustaining work in every part of the country, all while helping to make the changes we need to succeed in a low carbon future. People will be able to find good jobs where they live, families can stay together, and our communities will prosper – in every region across Canada.

With the right support, Canadian workers can meet these challenges head-on, and thrive as the work world changes. Training for the future of work is a core part of our approach, including expanded access to **training and re-training** for the new job market, as well as labour market research to keep Canada on the cutting edge of the evolving work environment.

Building on successes in training, retrofits and employment

BUILD (Building Urban Industries for Local Development) is a Winnipeg-based social enterprise and non-profit contractor that has successfully provided paid on-the-job training in construction and energy efficient retrofits for people who face barriers to employment. Over the past 14 years, hundreds of participants have gone on to find good jobs in the trades – while lowering emissions and reducing energy bills for homeowners.

New Democrats are committed to supporting workers today, while equipping them with the skills and opportunities of the future. This means making sure that Canadian workers have access to meaningful training funds to use when they need them. We'll set a national standard to ensure that Canadian employers continue to **invest in training** and employee development, and we'll work with the provinces to focus on training for sectors with the strongest job growth, in order to ensure that everyone has access to the skills and knowledge that will be in demand in a low-carbon future.

At the same time, we also need to make our Employment Insurance system more responsive to the realities of a shifting economy. That's why our plan will make it **easier to qualify for EI**, give workers the option of taking EI-based training *before* being laid off – and allow them to receive EI when they leave a job to **go back to school**.

Recognizing that access to education, training and skills development has historically been unequal, we'll **work with Indigenous communities** to ensure that training programs and opportunities address their needs and priorities – and we'll immediately close the gap in Indigenous education funding as a matter of fundamental justice. We'll also invest in **improving apprenticeship rates** for skilled trades and put supports in place so that women, racialized Canadians, Indigenous peoples, and other under-represented groups can more easily choose careers in the trades.

New Democrats are making a commitment to workers most impacted by the changes in our economy that they will not pay the price of action on climate change. We will work together with labour, employers, and the provinces and territories to find solutions for workers and communities implementing and inspired by the recommendations of the *Task Force on Just Transition for Canadian Coal Power Workers and Communities*. We will put in place dedicated **employment support** combining access to expanded EI benefits, re-training and job placement services, paired with significant investments to create quality local jobs and support thriving communities. New Democrats will also vigorously defend pensions, so that workers can always count on the retirement security that they've earned, and make sure that workers who are close to the end of their careers have a bridge to a dignified retirement.

Lasting prosperity depends on expanding opportunities for all Canadians and developing new sectors of our economy – renewable energy, and much more. An important part of our plan will include making sure that physical, digital and social **infrastructure** investments contribute to emissions reductions and benefit **all regions and communities**, especially those already experiencing the impacts of climate change, with the good, family-sustaining jobs they bring.

We will create a framework for enshrining **Community Benefits Agreements** in federally-funded infrastructure projects, to make sure that public money is put to its best possible use creating local economic opportunities and building support from local communities for climate goals. These partnerships between community, labour, governments, and employers will allow communities to define what they need out of projects – whether it's jobs, green space, or support for emissions reductions – and ensure that they get it.

New Democrats will work with industry and labour to develop a **Low Carbon Industrial Strategy** to support Canada's industries through the low carbon

transformation in a way that grows our economy so it works better for working families, protects jobs in all parts of the country, and creates opportunity for Indigenous communities. It will include a fund that industrial operators like manufacturers can apply to in order to access support for investments in lowering emissions and **keeping jobs here** in Canada. Our strategy will help to advance Canadian innovation and the application of clean tech solutions to secure our industry's competitiveness, and to market Canadian industry internationally.

Where oil and gas will continue to form a part of Canada's energy mix in the immediate future, we will continue to prioritize domestic upgrading and refining instead of shipping our raw resources and jobs to other countries.

Focused investments in **forest management** will help reduce forest fire risk, and we'll take steps to encourage innovation in forestry, including value-added wood production and re-forestation.

To support sustainable agriculture, a New Democrat government will **work with Canadian farmers** to promote land-management techniques and methods to increase carbon sequestration and reduce GHG emissions. We'll also work with the agricultural sector to help them access low carbon tools and technology, and adapt to climate-induced weather changes and other impacts of climate change, such as an increased number of pests and invasive species.

To help make Canada a global leader in emerging sectors and meet the challenges we face now, we'll harness power of Canadian research and development to establish targeted **centres of excellence** that will build on innovations to support the transition to a low carbon economy. Our plan will also expand support and technological assistance to **bring more innovative Canadian clean technologies to market** through Sustainable Development Technology Canada – creating jobs today, and setting Canada up to succeed in the future.



PART 4: IMPROVING WHERE WE LIVE AND WORK

Our communities are often the first places that we can feel the impacts of climate change – and one of the best places that we can invest to reduce emissions, save money, and improve quality of life for everyone.

Making bold investments in energy efficiency pays off not just in terms of reducing waste: it also means savings on energy bills every month for Canadian families and businesses. And it creates a steady stream of good jobs in our local communities from coast to coast to coast.

That's why a key component of our plan is to require **large-scale building retrofits across all sectors** to reduce energy demand, create jobs, and save people money. A New Democrat government would begin by working in partnership with the provinces and

territories to fund energy efficient retrofits on social housing units and government buildings, expanding outwards from there.

We'll improve the National Building Code to ensure that by 2030 every new building built in Canada is net-zero energy ready. Energy efficiency and sustainable building practices will be at the core of our **national housing strategy**, leveraging the power of federal investments to create good jobs all across the country delivering the affordable housing Canadians need.

Building a net-zero future

Net-zero buildings are designed to produce as much clean energy as they consume, and offer energy performance that is 80% better than a conventional buildings. According to the Canadian Home Builder's Association, construction costs for net-zero energy buildings have dropped by 50% in the past decade, and are continuing to fall.

We will set a target of **retrofitting all housing stock in Canada by 2050**, with half of these retrofits completed by 2030. Homeowners would be able to access low-interest loans repayable through energy savings to cover upgrades like insulation, windows, heat pumps, and other renewable technologies.

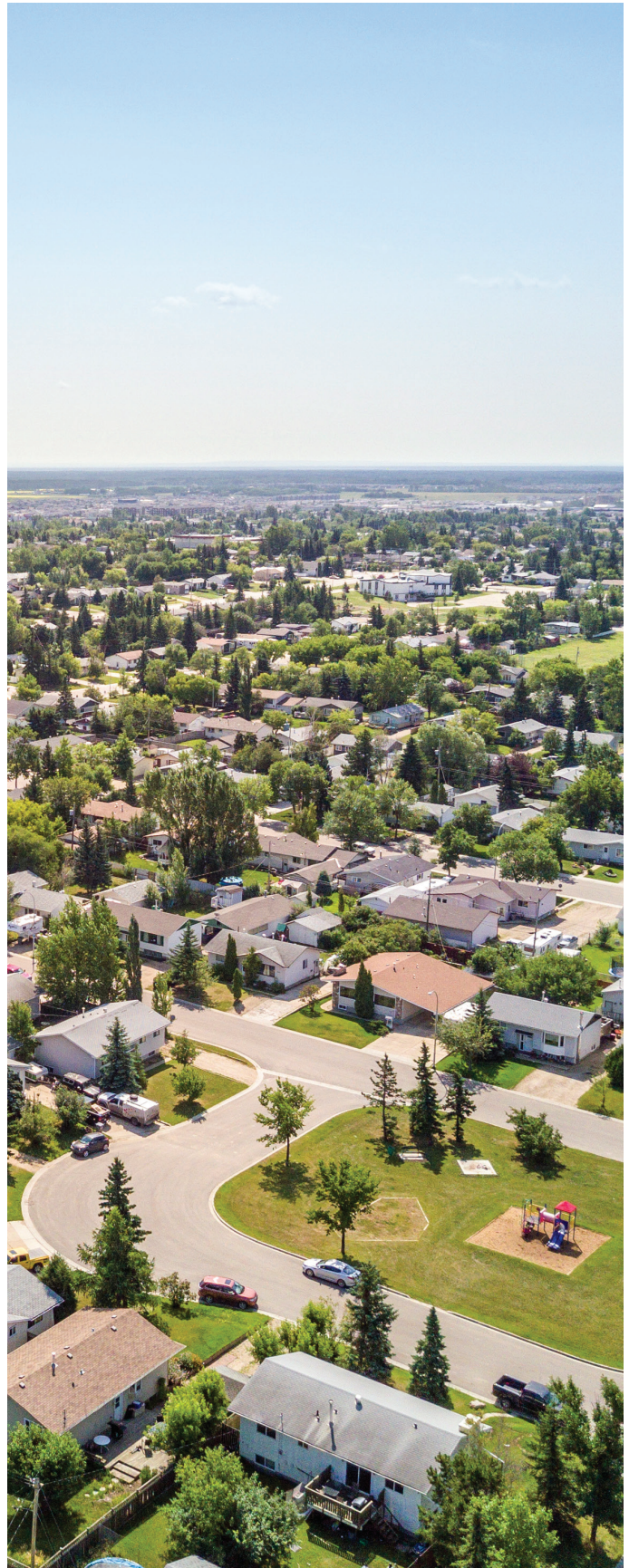
Energy Efficiency Works for Canadians

Residential energy efficiency improvements can help save Canadian households an average of almost \$900 a year¹ and reduce energy consumption from 20 - 60%.

Provinces, municipalities and local governments will be able to access low-cost financing for **energy efficient retrofits in public buildings** such as libraries, schools, and community centres. Our plan would also provide specialized supports for **low-income Canadians**, and **Indigenous remote communities** to ensure that everyone can benefit from healthy, more energy-efficient homes and buildings.

Making our communities more energy efficient is also an opportunity to innovate, create jobs and develop Canadian expertise. That's why we'll support researchers, public planners, builders, and manufacturers in the development, demonstration and commercialization of new building solutions that will reduce emissions and improve efficiency.

While it's important that we work towards lowering our emissions, we also have to set our communities up for **climate change resilience** with the tools to help mitigate the impacts of climate change that are already occurring, like flooding, thawing permafrost, and forest fires. We will work with provinces, municipalities, and Indigenous government to make sure that Canadian communities have the resources they need to cope safely with extreme weather events.



¹ https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/pan-canadian-framework/complementary-actions-reduce-emissions.html#3_2

PART 5: IMPROVING HOW WE GET AROUND

From the family car to the buses on our city streets, from the trains connecting major cities to rural bus routes, we're rapidly moving towards a future where vehicles produce dramatically less emissions or none at all. This means saving money on fuel costs and reducing our carbon footprint – and if we make the right choices now, it means creating good jobs building the vehicles and transit infrastructure we need to keep Canadians moving.

We know that quality **public transit** is essential to making our cities and towns run. Municipalities are already making significant investments in making their transit systems better and more environmentally friendly – it's time that they had a federal partner to help. The right choices today can build and expand low carbon transit networks in all communities – creating good jobs, reducing gridlock and saving commuters money.

A New Democrat government will create a permanent, direct, allocation-based funding mechanism **to modernize and expand public transit** in communities across Canada, and ensure that federal transit funding flows with an emphasis on scaling up **low carbon transit** projects like zero-emissions buses and electric trains. Working with municipalities, we will provide low-cost financing to local governments in support of the **electrification of transit** and other municipal fleets by 2030.

For provinces and municipalities that identify it as a priority, we will help them build towards **fare-free transit** to ease commutes, help people make ends meet and lower emissions.

A New Democrat government will also support creating **high-frequency rail** along the Quebec-Windsor corridor, taking cars off the road and expanding options for commuters, and expand rail

service options in other regions in partnership with the provinces and territories.

We know that Canadians want to do their part to reduce emissions when they travel – that's why our plan will make it easier to get and use a zero-emissions vehicle (ZEV), and make sure that more ZEVs are built right here at home.

Leading the way on fare-free transit

The Quebec communities of Candiac and Ste. Julie already offer free transit to encourage people to leave their cars at home. In April 2019, Victoria City Council voted to start phasing out transit fares and expanding service to make transit work better for the community. One study has found that the potential benefits of free transit in Montreal include reducing traffic and gridlock, improving quality of life, saving families money, and boosting spending power, and cutting emissions by 35% per person.²

Our vision includes Canadian auto manufacturers **producing more ZEVs in Canada**, safeguarding good jobs and strengthening our auto sector. New Democrats will work with labour and industry to put in place strong incentives for this growing market to make sure that these jobs stay here, boosting our economy and supporting our auto communities.

To make it easier for families to afford a ZEV right away, a New Democrat government will provide a \$5,000 **federal purchase incentive**, with an additional break **waiving the federal sales tax** for working families on ZEV purchases. Over the next few years these incentives will grow in value to \$15,000 and be targeted to **made-in-Canada vehicles** only – giving manufacturers a powerful incentive to build ZEVs here for the long term.

² https://cdn.iris-recherche.qc.ca/uploads/publication/file/Fiche_STM_WEB.pdf



We will also create a **centre of excellence for research and development** of ZEVs, and support Canadian manufacturing of batteries, energy storage solutions and alternative fuels like biofuels made from waste.

To make ZEV use easier for Canadians in all regions, we'll **expand fast charging networks** for ZEVs across the country, using Canada Post locations and other federal government buildings to host charging stations in every area of Canada, as well as working with provincial and municipal governments to make sure that charging stations are built into community development plans. We'll also help homeowners cover the cost of installing a **plug-in charger**, up to \$600.

In order to track our progress, we'll implement a pan-Canadian **ZEV target of 100% of new automotive sales by 2040**. We will also make commercial fleets and truck freight transportation cleaner, through the development of new technology and by expanding the use of zero-emissions trucks, made in Canada wherever possible.

Better commutes include promoting smart community planning and **active transportation** like walking and biking, helping Canadians make choices that are healthier and more affordable for everyone. That's why a New Democrat government will work with other levels of government to implement a Canadian **cycling strategy** and to support community planning and design that makes travel safe, convenient and comfortable for everyone, regardless of their mode of transportation.

At the same time, Canadians living in rural areas need affordable, convenient transit options that they can rely on too. We'll re-establish **rural bus routes** abandoned by Greyhound and expand bus service in rural regions by working with local bus operators and, where necessary, expanding VIA Rail's mandate to run zero-emissions buses.

PART 6: POWERING OUR COMMUNITIES CARBON-FREE

Canada has huge untapped renewable energy potential – everything from geothermal to solar, tidal and wind power. Phasing out coal is just the beginning; we can make a historic jump to non-emitting energy. Clean energy accounted for more than 60,000 jobs in 2017, and that’s only going to grow. We can protect good, family-sustaining jobs across the country and broaden our economy while making the shift to electricity that meets our emissions targets.

It’s time for bold leadership. We’ll set a target to power Canada with **net carbon-free electricity by 2030**, and move to 100% non-emitting electricity by 2050. To drive this progress, we will establish a new **Canadian Climate Bank**. This bank will be capitalized with \$3 billion by the federal government and mandated to spur investment in the low carbon economy, accelerate the adoption of clean technology, create good jobs, and support local economic development.

The Canadian Climate Bank will help boost investment in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and low carbon technology. It will also provide support for interested provinces to **inter-connect power grids** and introduce **smart grid technology** with federal loan guarantees, to help bolster Canada’s energy security and distribute clean power across the country.

The Climate Bank will also boost **made-in-Canada manufacturing** of renewable energy components and technologies with low-interest loans for factory re-tooling, to help scale up Canada’s clean energy industry. Building and maintaining the clean energy infrastructure we need will be a significant job creator for tradespeople and other construction trades, providing an important lift to our economy.

Meeting this carbon-free electricity goal in a way that respects local communities and creates good jobs is essential. We know that community-owned energy generates employment, reduces emissions, and keeps skills, benefits, and control local. That’s why we’ll create a *Clean Communities Fund* to support investments in innovative **community-owned and operated clean energy projects**. Our plan will also expand the use of renewable gas produced by organic waste from farms, forests, landfills, and water treatment plants.

Inspiration and innovation in northern countries

Samsø is an island community of 4,000 people in central Denmark. Originally dependant on imported oil and coal for power, in 1997 they won a national competition to become a model renewable energy community. Today, Samsø actually generates more power from renewable sources than it consumes, and sells excess electricity to the national utility, generating income for the hundreds of residents who own shares in the island’s wind farms.

We will work in partnership with Indigenous and northern communities to move off **diesel with renewable micro-grids** and transmission connections, improving energy security and cutting emissions and air pollution.

One thing we won’t do is continue down the path that the Liberals and Conservatives have chosen when it comes to spending public money on oil and gas subsidies. Canada currently spends



\$3.3 billion per year³ on oil and gas subsidies, more per capita than any other G7 country. On top of that ongoing expense, Justin Trudeau purchased the Kinder Morgan oil pipeline for a staggering \$4.5 billion and gave another \$1.6 billion in handouts to the oil patch.

Simply put, New Democrats believe that public funds are best spent supporting the transition to renewable energy, rather than on profitable oil and gas companies. We will fulfill Canada's G-20 commitment to **eliminate these fossil fuel subsidies** and redirect these funds to low carbon initiatives. We'll also reform Export Development Canada's mandate to focus on providing support for Canadian sustainable energy projects, rather than the petroleum industry.

New Democrats believe in giving Canadians a **stronger voice in energy decisions** that impact their communities. We will overhaul the process for reviewing major projects to ensure adequate time for public consultation, and provide core funding to support Indigenous communities participating in these processes. We will ensure that proposed projects align with our emissions reduction targets, respect Indigenous rights and create good jobs here in Canada.

³ IISD, <https://www.iisd.org/faq/unpacking-canadas-fossil-fuel-subsidies/>



PART 7: PROTECTING OUR LAND AND WATER

Canada has been blessed with a beautiful natural environment, the world's longest coastline and one fifth of the world's total freshwater resources. Making sure that these precious resources are protected is essential to making real progress on our climate change goals, and to safeguarding a good quality of life for all Canadians. We can advance the climate effort through nature-based solutions – including both terrestrial and marine measures – and can be ambassadors for their inclusion in climate action and diplomacy globally.

As a first step, it's time to enshrine in law the **right to a healthy environment**. Our federal *Environmental Bill of Rights* will ensure that all communities can enjoy a guarantee to clean water, land, and air,

and will set the stage for the adoption of serious measures to curb climate pollution.

To reduce waste in our landfills and communities, a New Democrat government will **ban single-use plastics** across Canada by 2022, and develop strong, enforceable extended producer responsibility legislation that holds companies responsible for the entire lifecycle of their plastics products and packaging. We will **tackle our existing plastic pollution** by working with provinces and territories, municipalities, and Indigenous governments to capture and recycle the single-use plastics already in our communities.

Waste management is a growing financial burden for many communities in Canada – that's why a New Democrat government will make funding available through the Canadian Climate Bank to help municipalities adapt their **waste management and**

recycling programs. Additionally, we'll invest in the development and deployment of technologies to help manufacturers transition away from harmful plastics – and work towards a zero-waste future.

Conservation is a vital way to protect ecosystems and preserve biodiversity. We're committed to protecting at least **30% of our land, freshwater, and oceans by 2030** and to backing those protections with the funding and enforcement in order to achieve this goal. We'll also work with other levels of government to develop a system of **urban national parks** – to advance our conservation goals while connecting more Canadians to our natural heritage. And we will work with the provinces to develop a national approach to tree-planting, using responsible reforestation to help lower our carbon footprint.

In keeping with our commitment to reconciliation, these conservation goals will be advanced in full partnership with Indigenous peoples and with respect for Indigenous sovereignty. It's time to grow the **Indigenous Guardians Program**, invest in Indigenous-led science, and support the creation of Indigenous-managed protected areas – and to make sure that species recovery efforts uphold Indigenous rights and embrace traditional knowledge to increase biodiversity.

Recognizing that **protecting our oceans** is an important part of fighting climate change, a New Democrat government work to reduce emissions from shipping and fishing, prevent ocean acidification, and reverse the loss of coastal blue carbon ecosystems, such as salt marshes. We'll also protect ocean biodiversity by expanding well-enforced marine protected areas.

Canada's freshwater resources are critical for the health and well-being of our ecosystems, our communities and our local economies. A New Democrat government will implement a **national freshwater strategy** and work with the provinces and territories to protect our waterways, including

the Saint Lawrence, under international agreements. We will also reverse the harmful changes brought in by the Conservatives and fully restore **navigable waters** protections for all of Canada's lakes and rivers, and invest in research to support freshwater protections.

The way we produce and use food also has an impact on our climate future – and on nutrition for all Canadians. We'll work to connect communities to farmers through **local food hubs**, and develop a **national food waste strategy** to reduce the huge amounts of food that currently go to waste in Canada.



PART 8: GETTING RESULTS

This plan is about building a future where all Canadians can thrive – with more opportunity for workers and communities, and real action to protect our environment. It will require serious investment to achieve the changes we need – but the cost of Liberal and Conservative inaction is higher. Already, the health costs of extreme weather are estimated to be over \$1.6 billion a year, and the cost of property damage from climate change in Canada is expected to grow as high as \$43 billion by 2050.

We need a bold plan now. In our first mandate, a New Democrat government will make new investments of over \$15 billion to put in place programs to reduce emissions and create good jobs all across the country. This will include:

- \$350 million to support Indigenous rights and environmental protection efforts: (additional major investments in clean water, housing, and education are part of our plan);
- \$400 million to drive federal leadership on emissions reductions;
- \$1.5 billion to support workers, industries, research, and innovation;
- \$2.5 billion to create good jobs helping communities adapt to climate change and reduce emissions, including though energy efficient retrofits;
- \$6.5 billion in making transit and transportation cleaner, more affordable, and more convenient for Canadians;
- \$3.5 billion to spur the transition to renewable energy, in addition to funds leveraged through the Canadian Climate Bank; and
- \$400 million to support conservation, waste reduction, and protection of lands and water.

To contribute to this investment, New Democrats will end fossil fuel subsidies and focus federal funding on supporting clean alternatives. We are also committed to delivering a fairer tax system that ensures that the wealthiest pay their fair share.

These investments will drive real results. We anticipate that our plan will create at least 300,000 good jobs within a first mandate and help boost the economy across the country. And we'll put Canada on the path to meeting the ambitious, science-based GHG reduction targets that we need to prevent dangerous global warming beyond 1.5 degrees.

This plan describes specific reductions from this first set of measures that we will put into action right away, reducing Canada's greenhouse gas emissions to 450 Mt by 2030. This is an important first step, exceeding the Paris target and getting us three – quarters of the way to our goal, but there is more work to do. We will mobilize Canadians, other levels of government, labour, and industry to identify other sources of innovation and emissions reductions and close the gap by 2030.



With Love & Courage

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Jagmeet Singh
KDP - NDP

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