

Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change Summary

On November 4, 2016, The Paris Agreement came into force. The 188 countries, including Canada, along with the European Union (EU) ratified or acceded to the Agreement as members of the United Nations Framework on Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC). The Paris Agreement strives to limit average global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. To meet this goal, each signatory commits to cut its carbon pollution, and commits to submit a plan to reduce its annual greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). This plan is known as its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

Canada's NDC is a plan to cut GHGs by 30% below 2005 emission levels by 2030.

To deliver on its NDC, the Canadian government has worked with provinces and territories, and consulted with national Indigenous organizations, to launch the **Pan-Canadian Framework on Climate Change and Clean Growth (PCF)** in 2016. This has set in motion a set of policies and regulations designed to reduce emissions across all sectors of the Canadian economy. These include carbon pricing, a 2030 coal phase-out, clean fuel standards, efficiency measures in buildings and transportation, and regulations to reduce methane emissions from the oil and gas sector, among others. Furthermore, the federal government made historic investments in public transit, and modified capital depreciation rules to accelerate investment in zero carbon technologies.

The Pan-Canadian Framework has four main pillars: pricing carbon pollution; complementary measures to further reduce emissions across the economy; measures to adapt to the impacts of climate change and build resilience; and actions to accelerate innovation, support clean technology, and create jobs.

The Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change is a plan developed with the provinces and territories and in consultation with Indigenous peoples to meet emission reduction targets, grow the economy, and build resilience to a changing climate.

Federal Funding/investments to achieve NDC targets

The federal government has collaborated with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities on the Green Municipal Fund (GMF) since 2000. Budget of 2016 provided an additional \$125 million over two years including projects that reduce GHG emissions.

Recently announced projects under the GMF include a \$31.5 million investment for 20 new sustainable municipal projects, such as Canada's first net-zero municipal library and Halifax's ground-breaking Solar City project.

The budget of 2016 outlined a number of new federal investments that will support a transition to a low-carbon economy. Some of these investments include:

- \$62.5 million to support the deployment of infrastructure for alternative transportation fuels, including charging infrastructure for electric vehicles and natural gas and hydrogen refueling stations, as well as demonstration of next generation recharging technologies;
- \$50 million over two years to invest in technologies that will reduce GHG emissions from the oil and gas sector;
- \$82.5 million over two years to support research, development, and demonstration of clean energy technologies with the greatest potential to reduce GHG emissions;
- \$100 million per year from the regional development agencies to support clean technology, representing a doubling of their existing annual aggregate support;
- \$50 million over four years to Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC) for the SD Tech Fund. These resources will enable SDTC to announce new clean technology projects in 2016 that support the development and demonstration of new technologies that address climate change, air quality, clean water, and clean soil;
- \$40 million over five years to integrate climate resilience into building design guides and codes. The funding will support revised national building codes by 2020 for residential, institutional, commercial, and industrial facilities;
- \$129.5 million to implement programming focused on building the science base to inform decision making, protecting the health and well-being of Canadians, building resilience in the North and Indigenous communities, and enhancing competitiveness in key economic sectors; and
- \$10.7 million over two years to implement renewable energy projects in off-grid Indigenous and northern communities that rely on diesel and other fossil fuels to generate heat and power.

Building on the infrastructure investments outlined in Budget 2016, the federal government has announced an additional \$81 billion over 11 years for investments in public transit, social infrastructure, transportation that supports trade, Canada's rural and northern communities, smart cities, and green infrastructure.

Green infrastructure funding will support projects that reduce GHG emissions, enable greater climate change adaptation and resilience, and ensure that more communities can provide clean air and safe drinking water for their citizens. Specific projects could include interprovincial transmission lines that reduce reliance on coal, the development of new low-carbon/renewable power projects, and the expansion of smart grids to make more efficient use of existing power supplies.

Funding under the \$2 billion Low Carbon Economy Fund will begin in 2017. This Fund will support new provincial and territorial actions to reduce emissions between now and 2030. Projects will focus on concrete measures that generate new, incremental reductions, while considering cost-effectiveness.

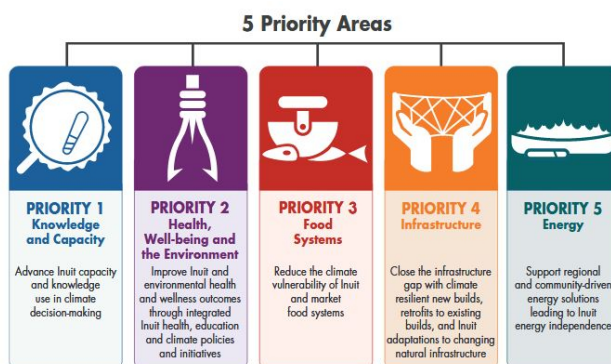
The Government has also committed more than \$1 billion, over four years, to support clean technology including in the forestry, fisheries, mining, energy and agriculture sectors.

National Inuit Climate Change Strategy (June 2019)

The National Inuit Climate Change Strategy is a direct product of the NDCs as per Paris agreement and the PCF. The Trudeau government said it will contribute \$1 million toward the strategy's implementation during its first year. Environment and Climate Change Minister Catherine McKenna said Inuit are "disproportionately experiencing the impacts of climate change."

She also said, "Canada's North is warming at three times the global average, impacting Inuit way of life, economies and communities... Today's strategy is climate action by Inuit, for Inuit. We will continue to work together to tackle climate change and protect our northern communities."

Source: (Meyer, 2019)



A graph showing priorities in the National Inuit Climate Change Strategy. The top priority is to "advance Inuit capacity and knowledge use in climate decision-making." Strategy screenshot

Nunavut Territory

Some of the key actions taken to date or under development in Nunavut include:

Energy efficiency upgrades

The Nunavut Energy Retrofit Program was piloted in Iqaluit in 2007, and addressed all of the government of Nunavut's Iqaluit Government of Nunavut-owned buildings. The one-time project investment of \$12.8 million has led to annual savings in excess of \$1.6 million and 1,594 tonnes of GHG reductions.

In combination with the conversion of three facilities to residual heat, GHG reduction is approximately 4,100 tonnes, which is roughly 20% of those buildings' total emissions.

Development of a Climate Change and Adaptation strategy

Upagiatavut was developed in 2011 and serves as a guiding document for the impacts of climate change in Nunavut.

Climate Permafrost Databank

The Government of Nunavut is developing and uses information technology to centralize and increase the access to climate change information, such as permafrost data and landscape hazards maps. The information is used to improve infrastructure planning and help mitigate the effects of climate change across Nunavut.

Climate Change Secretariat

The Government of Nunavut is establishing a Climate Change Secretariat (CCS), which will be the central point within the government to address both climate change adaptation and mitigation issues.

Action on Pricing Carbon Pollution

The Government of Nunavut recognizes the role of carbon pricing in the pan-Canadian Framework for Clean Growth and Climate Change. Given Nunavut's particular circumstances, the Government of Canada and the Government of Nunavut will work together to assess the implications of carbon pricing in the territory for its economy, communities and people including energy costs, and to develop solutions together.

The Government of Nunavut and the Government of Canada will also work together to assess the implications of carbon pricing in Canada on the cost of living in Nunavut. This will be an important consideration for future policy development.

As outlined in the federal government's benchmark, 100% of the revenues from carbon pricing will be retained by Nunavut.

Collaboration partnership opportunities for clean growth and climate change

Nunavut and the Government of Canada intend to collaborate in the following domains of priority to address climate change and advance clean growth:

Nunavut and the Government of Canada will assess the economic and technical feasibility of electrification through hybrid power generation in Nunavut's communities. Hybrid power generation would significantly reduce emissions while at the same time ensure that Nunavut's isolated communities have reliable power.

Nunavut and the Government of Canada will work together to develop a retrofit program to increase the energy efficiency of public and private housing. Investment in safe and energy efficient housing is a key component of building strong resilient communities in the Arctic.