

Sample Answer and Miscellaneous Information:

Survey 1st official chance for INDIVIDUALS to make recommendations to Federal Climate plan (Canadian Net-Zero Accountability Act).
Election promises are significant and substantial target of 40-45% GHG emissions reduction by 2030 is a big ask (but we must increase our target in 2022 – to at least 60% below 2005 by 2030.)

Q1. What opportunities do you think the Government of Canada should pursue to reduce emissions by 40-45% below 2005 levels by 2030 and position Canada to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, including in any or all of the following economic sectors? Please elaborate on your answers where appropriate, including any specific insights on policy opportunities or initiatives.

Buildings

Developers need to prevent pollution, reduce harm to the environment, go beyond sustainability. Buildings should be designed to be 'regenerative'; restore its own materials and sources of energy. Increase major subsidies for Canadians to undergo retrofits; add charging stations, change heating systems.

Electricity

Phase out natural gas plants. Introduce policies, set caps on GHGs emitted by gas plants. Use federal power to ensure provinces are on track to meet GHG reduction in the building sector.

Heavy Industry including Oil & Gas –

Oil & Gas

By far the biggest polluting industry; largest source of GHG emissions should have a category of its own. It has a profound impact on other sectors such as transportation and buildings. Phase out public funding (subsidies & grants) of the fossil fuel industry. No tax credits for stranded assets. Cancel Transmountain pipeline.

Accelerate G20 commitment to eliminate fossil fuel subsidies from 2025 to 2023. Do not invest in tax credits for investments in carbon capture and storage projects (too costly, slow development, still unproven) - leave that to private sector.

Heavy Industry

Large Industry are big emitters but they also need to be competitive internationally (vs those without carbon tax). So, they pay very little or no tax initially. Set targets and benchmarks for phasing out subsidies. Develop Border Carbon Adjustment with USA and Europe. Establish a Green Procurement policy for industrial materials; generate a market with all gov't buildings.

Transportation

Keep all promises. Do not be intimidated by industry lobbyists. Electrification of transportation is critical and we the public are ready. Offer Incentives for zero emission vehicles & charging stations across Canada. Create a National Zero Emissions Vehicle Regulations include fixed and increasing % of fully electric and hybrid vehicles each year, with interim targets. Consumer demand exists today. Canada needs to keep up with USA, especially California or we will become a dump for gas guzzlers from USA. Make the high frequency rail from Toronto to Windsor Quebec and Ottawa a reality.

Agriculture & Waste

Work with farmers to integrate risk management, environmental practices, and climate readiness. Ensure young farmers, women and indigenous and other minority communities have opportunities to contribute. Reimagine Canadian Agriculture with a focus on sustainability, raise income for farmers, increase number of farms and farmers. Reject current policies focussed on maximum production and export. Set up programs to help farmers reduce emissions, prioritize nature-based solutions, provide support for renewable energy and efficiency. Prioritize No-waste Food Fund - Recycling plastic packaging is not good enough, Canada must eliminate plastic production and not export it. Pleased that Canada has a ban on single use plastic but we should not allow ramping up of production for export. Cap exports. Transfer costs of recycling to producers.

Nature Based Climate Solutions

Follow through on Promises! Restore capacity for wetlands and forests to store carbon ASAP. Establish protected conservation areas, restore Natural areas. Establish new jobs for indigenous, communities, farmers, ranchers, and foresters. Work with 1st Nation, Inuit, Metis to support Indigenous garden programs.

Support Nature based climate solutions because they are cost effective, stimulate the economy & create new jobs. Green infrastructure for cities make them more livable and better to withstand climate extremes.

2026 Interim Objective

Interim GHG gas emissions objective for 2026 are missing. By law, it must be part of the Environment Minister's plan for reaching the 2030 target.

Tell us more Box

Note that military Co2 emissions are not counted into GHG reduction plan. This unacceptable. Military activities and Fighter jets are big polluters. Demand reduction in military budget:

<https://www.change.org/p/the-50-nobelists-appeal-spend-less-on-the-military-more-on-human-welfare-globalpeacedividend-globalpeacedivid>

Question 2

Q2. What do you see as the barriers or challenges to reducing emissions in these sectors? Do you have suggestions on how to overcome these barriers?

- Polls consistently confirm that a significant majority of Canadians are deeply concerned about the climate crisis, including me. I have XXX children/ grand children and want to ensure they will have a liveable future.
- Most of us are also overwhelmed by the scope of the crisis, and do not know how or where to put pressure on governments to help guarantee that genuine climate action happens.
- This is an EMERGENCY! We need clear and honest information about Canada's current status as a climate laggard compared to other G20 countries; why we failed to set ambitious targets in the past, then consistently failed to meet them, despite repeated promises and pledges. Real and bold government action is the only way to overcome decades of cynicism about the weak and failing 'commitments' by a succession of federal governments (for example, declaring a climate emergency, then the next day, spending billions of tax dollars to purchase a pipeline to transport tar sands oil).
- We need a climate emergency response similar to our response to the COVID crisis, and it needs to be implemented quickly and across party lines, with sufficient resources to achieve real short- and long-term success in reducing GHGs.

- The federal government needs to add a new Climate Emergency cabinet position/portfolio that is truly responsible and responsive to Canadian citizens, with regular, honest reporting about progress in achieving our net-zero goals every five years or less.
- The federal government needs to spend what it takes to achieve the promised 40-45% – preferably a 60% reduction – in Canada’s greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.
- Voluntary measures to achieve our goals need to be made mandatory

Question 3

Q3. What broader economic, technological, or social challenges and opportunities do you foresee resulting from efforts to reduce emissions in these sectors? For example, opportunities associated with economic diversification across sectors. Do you have suggestions on how to address these challenges and opportunities?

(See Q5)

Question 4

Q4. Looking beyond 2030, what enabling measures, strategies or technological pathways do you think the Government of Canada should put in place now to ensure that Canada is on track to net-zero emissions by 2050?

The climate crisis requires immediate measures and strategies. Hence looking beyond 2030 is difficult when we are already in deep climate trouble in 2022. The following measures are recommended:

1. Terminate all fossil-fuel subsidies immediately - not just the “inefficient” ones that Canada promised to the G20 in 2009 and in recent COP26 reports.
2. Switch from “voluntary” to “compulsory” adaptation strategies. We will need a legal framework - laws and penalties - to enforce emission reductions beyond the carbon pricing program for individuals, companies, institutions, in short, all of society.
3. Freeze all fossil fuel expansion projects including pipelines such as TMX (Trans Mountain) and CGL (Coastal Gas Link)

4. Develop an escalating phase-out plan of all fossil fuels starting in 2025 with a 3% annual reduction until 2030 and 5% per year beyond 2030.
5. Canada's big banks are funding climate chaos by pouring billions into fossil fuel projects and expansion. Since the Paris Agreement, RBC, BMO, TD, CIBC and Scotiabank have invested over CDN \$725 billion globally with over CDN \$75 billion going to the Tar Sands. Since these banks cannot self-regulate to reduce their impact on the climate, then the government of Canada must step in to legislate their funding going to fossils. In other words, it's time to stop the money pipeline.
6. Accelerate incentives for ZEV (Zero Emission Vehicle) purchases as well as building retrofit programs.
7. Increase the federal carbon price to \$210 starting in 2031 and increasing to \$295 in 2036.
8. Remove natural gas produced electricity from the Output-Based Pricing System (OBPS). We need to immediate carbon pricing of natural gas to speed up the transition to renewables.
9. Enact Border Carbon Adjustments (BCAs) and work with trading partners to have them implemented by 2025.

Question 5

Q5. What broader economic, technological, or social issues do you foresee because of the transition to a net-zero economy in Canada? Do you have suggestions on how to address these issues?

- We need a Just Transition Act immediately. The Liberal government promised such legislation in the 2019 federal election but did not introduce it before calling the 2021 election. We must ensure that workers in the fossil fuel industry, and supporting sectors, will be trained to take comparable employment in the new green economy as the fossil fuel industry continues to wind down and/or automates to eliminate jobs.

As part of the Just Transition, government must:

- Include the participation of affected workers and communities
- Expand the social safety net to ensure no workers slip through the cracks
- Create new economic opportunities
- Drive inclusive workforce development

- Prioritize proactive, economy-wide measures
- Engage stakeholders to produce regional transition strategies
- Include substantial public investments and create a new crown corporation to oversee worker transition.