



# Citizens' Climate Lobby Canada Lobby Climatique des Citoyens

## Meeting the Most Urgent Challenge of Our Time

**The urgency:** We are in a global emergency. Youth, scientists, local governments and citizens worldwide demand major changes to keep global warming below 1.5 °C and to have a chance of protecting our future from worldwide ecological collapse. Recent reports, such as the [IPCC 1.5°C Report](#), [Canada's Changing Climate report](#), the [UN 1 Million Species Extinction report](#) and the latest Mauna Loa CO<sub>2</sub> reading of [415 ppm](#), highlight the need for urgent action.

**Canadians are demanding action:** As of May 6, 2019, climate emergencies have been declared in [382 Canadian communities](#), covering over 10 million people. In August 2018, teenager Greta Thunberg from Sweden sparked the global Fridays for Future movement by striking from school to demand that leaders protect her future. On May 3, 2019, thousands of youth in 97 Canadian cities engaged in a nationwide strike. An international global Earth Strike is set for September 27.

**The good news:** Our present challenge calls for a whole suite of beneficial solutions. With the right policies, including pricing carbon as a [core component of a cost-effective climate plan](#), we can help save lives, improve health, conserve nature, promote equity and be poised to capture part of the [26 trillion dollar opportunity](#) in climate smart growth by 2030.

**Why Carbon Fee and Dividend:** A carbon fee offers the most cost-effective lever to reduce carbon emissions at the scale and speed that is necessary. Fairness and political viability are maximized by returning all revenues as dividends or equal rebates to Canadians. Most families, including the most vulnerable, receive more in dividends than they pay in increased energy costs.

**Support for pricing carbon:** [Canada's Chamber of Commerce](#), [major Canadian oil companies](#), the [Canadian Mining Association](#) and the [Canadian Medical Association](#) are among the many organizations that

endorse pricing carbon. In the USA, 3554 economists, including 27 Nobel Laureates, have endorsed the [Carbon Dividends](#) model of pricing carbon.

In Canada, Carbon Fee and Dividend has been endorsed by Canadians for Clean Prosperity, Canada's EcoFiscal Commission and the Post Media editorial board.

**We appreciate Canada being a world-leader on carbon pricing, the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act and the two years of negotiations for the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change. We request you support the following improvements:**

1. Increase the national carbon price past 2022 as part of a plan for Canada to do its fair share in reducing worldwide greenhouse gas emissions by 45% below 2010 levels by 2030, as per the IPCC 1.5 °C report.
2. Immediately identify and phase out federal subsidies to the fossil fuel industry that distort the market signal a carbon price provides.
3. Establish CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent fees for other GHGs, including measurable methane, nitrogen trifluoride, sulfur hexafluoride, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), nitrous oxide and perfluorocarbons, at a minimum.
4. Study the replacement of the output-based pricing system for large emitters with border carbon adjustments to protect businesses that are genuinely vulnerable in the international marketplace.
5. We need science-based, legally binding greenhouse gas targets, transparent progress reporting and cross-party cooperation. Please use the [United Kingdom's Climate Change Act \(2008\)](#) as a model, which was the recommendation of Ontario's Environment Commissioner in: Climate Action in Ontario: What's Next?

*CCL Canada is grassroots, nonpartisan and volunteer-run. We are here to help in this time of massive change.*

*It's time to treat the climate crisis as the nonpartisan issue that it truly is.*