CANADIAN CLIMATE INSTITUTE

L'INSTITUT CLIMATIQUE DU CANADA



ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

2025-2026

Who we are

The Canadian Climate Institute is Canada's foremost climate policy research organization. We deliver essential insights and actionable roadmaps to to enhance Canada's resilience and economic competitiveness so that Canada can succeed in the global energy transition.

The Climate Institute is proud to work with partners from across the country and around the world to accelerate innovation, low-carbon competitiveness, and climate progress, and to amplify Indigenous knowledge and leadership on climate solutions.

Our work is grounded in the best available research and evidence, and informed by technical input and methodological oversight from leading experts across Canada.

Our work covers six research priorities.

- **ADAPTATION**: Making our economy, infrastructure, and communities more resilient to a warming climate.
- **MITIGATION**: Advancing cost-effective pathways to reduce emissions and accelerate Canada's clean energy transition.
- **CLEAN GROWTH**: Identifying policies and strategies to unlock low-carbon growth and economic competitiveness.
- **440 MEGATONNES**: Tracking Canada's climate progress through data-driven insights.
- **INDIGENOUS RESEARCH**: Centring and uplifting Indigenous-led climate policy solutions that advance reconciliation and self-determination.
- **SUSTAINABLE FINANCE**: Accelerating private-sector investments to reduce risks from climate impacts, maximize clean growth opportunities, and improve long-term competitiveness.

What sets our research apart

We tackle big policy challenges with a combination of academic rigour and practical insight. The Institute's staff set research priorities, undertake analysis and external engagement, develop policy recommendations, and publish research independently. Throughout our research process, panels of prominent academics and subject-matter experts provide constructive feedback on scope, research methodologies, results and policy recommendations. Major research publications undergo formal peer review before publication, with the names of external reviewers listed in each report. And we engage with governments, Indigenous representatives and rights holders, industry leaders, civil society groups, and others throughout our research processes to ensure our work is not just analytically sound, but reflects the on-the-ground practical considerations that can make or break policy implementation.





Climate concerns are poised for an urgent comeback

It's no secret that Canadians' concerns over climate change can slide down the priority list when more immediate threats dominate headlines. Geopolitical conflicts, the rising cost of living, and our chaotic relationship with the administration south of the border are just a few recent examples of such threats.

The salience of big public issues—and climate change is certainly one—almost always waxes and wanes. Attention spikes around disasters, international summits, or major policy announcements, and then recedes as other pressures intrude.

But climate change is not cyclical. It's *cumulative*. Even when attention shifts elsewhere, carbon emissions continue to accumulate and their impacts compound over time. And that's a crucial difference. However often climate change slips down the public agenda, it will inevitably reassert itself with force and urgency.

Halting climate change essentially comes down to a single structural imperative: decarbonizing the global energy system. Increasingly, that shift is being driven by near-term imperatives. As we have seen with Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the more recent conflict in the Strait of Hormuz, fossil fuel supplies are vulnerable to geopolitical disruption, and the costs of that vulnerability reverberate through the economy.

In contrast, clean electricity can be generated within national boundaries, creating greater energy security. Solar and wind energy in particular are flexible, efficient, and cheaper almost everywhere—and becoming more so every day.

Even so, we need to acknowledge that Canada, like other major producers of fossil energy, is understandably reluctant to embrace the transition with the urgency that's required. Fossil energy contributes importantly to the country's fiscal and economic capacity, local employment, and often, regional identity.

A hasty and poorly planned switch away from oil and gas can pose significant risks to workers, infrastructure, and affordability. At the same time, moving too slowly will guarantee substantial and growing costs in terms of both Canada's economic and climate future.

Falling behind doesn't only mean missing the emissions targets that Canada has committed to. It means losing industrial competitiveness, technological leadership, and policy credibility in a world where clean electricity and new electric technologies are becoming the backbone of growth.

Climate change will not remain down the priority list for long. The physics will simply not allow it—nor will the economics or, eventually, the politics.

When climate concerns re-emerge, the quality of analysis available to decision-makers matters enormously. The Canadian Climate Institute is here to deliver it, leveraging independent expertise and insight grounded in exceptional research, data, and skills. To cite just one profoundly relevant example, the Institute's work on the economics of climate adaptation demonstrates that every dollar invested proactively today can save up to 15 times as much in the long run.

So, I salute the sterling contributions of our staff, under the leadership of Rick Smith, and members of our Board, Expert Panels, and Council of Advisors who provide guidance and insights.

Together, we have much important work to do in the months and years ahead.





MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: RICK SMITH

Navigating a new era for Canadian climate policy

The past year brought big changes, both nationally and globally. In Canada, a new government shifted the federal focus to economic competitiveness and trade diversification. In the U.S., a re-elected Donald Trump dismantled important climate policies and put up new trade barriers. The rest of the world, meanwhile, continued to race ahead in the transition to cleaner electric energy.

Major markets like Europe and China have continued to implement robust carbon pricing. One in four cars sold around the world in 2025 was electric. And the single largest contributor to global energy supply growth last year was solar power: a first ever for modern renewables.

To compete in this changing world, Canada needs thoughtful, well-crafted government policies to reduce carbon emissions and grow future economic opportunities. Meanwhile, as extreme weather intensifies—creating $2.4 billion in insured losses in 2025—our country also needs practical solutions to keep communities safe and to keep the rising costs of climate disasters in check.

Over five years since the launch of the Canadian Climate Institute, our insights continue to be as important as ever. In the past year, we delivered nuanced research and actionable roadmaps to advance smart climate policies.

We unpacked why industrial carbon pricing is among Canada's most powerful levers to cut emissions while protecting competitiveness—all at minimal cost to households.

We made the case that connecting regional electricity grids to accelerate electrification should be a top nation-building project. That's because there is no path to a net-zero future without more clean electricity and the transmission lines and modern grids required to distribute it.

It's also crucial to secure Canada's place in the global race for critical minerals that underpin so much clean technology. As demand skyrockets, our research revealed that Canada risks missing a multi-billion-dollar opportunity unless it attracts significantly more investment to boost production.

Our research also showed that climate-proofing infrastructure today would save taxpayers up to $9 billion each year. Our Indigenous research team's first major report detailed how ensuring Indigenous communities have housing that is healthy, energy-efficient, and climate-resilient can save both money and lives.

A clean energy transition requires investment dollars. So with federal seed funding, we co-launched a new project with Business Future Pathways to develop Canada's sustainable finance taxonomy over the next two years. Well-defined, made-in-Canada investment guidelines will help determine which activities align with the global energy transition, helping mobilize private capital toward clean growth and boosting the competitiveness of low-carbon sectors.

As our 440 Megatonnes research has found, Canada is not on track to hit its climate targets. The more the country veers off-course, the greater costs and difficulties we'll face getting back on track, and the higher the long-term risk to Canada's security and economic resilience.

Today, it's clearer than ever that good climate policies are necessary to keep life more affordable, protect our communities from extreme weather, and create a stronger economy.

As Canada makes critical decisions on domestic policies and investments in the coming year, the Institute will provide the insights decision-makers need to successfully navigate the global energy transition and create a prosperous future.



Partners and supporters

The Canadian Climate Institute is a non-partisan, independently governed, registered Canadian charity. We are proud to work with a wide variety of partners and funders on specific initiatives. The Institute's staff develop and execute research projects independently from start to finish, regardless of the source of funding.

Agnico Eagle
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Climate Proof Canada
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Future Skills Centre
Hewitt Foundation
Houssian Foundation
Hummingbird Foundation
ICLEI Canada
Insurance Bureau of Canada
Intact Insurance
Ivey Foundation
Loblaw Companies Ltd.
Max Bell Foundation
McClure Family Fund
McLean Foundation
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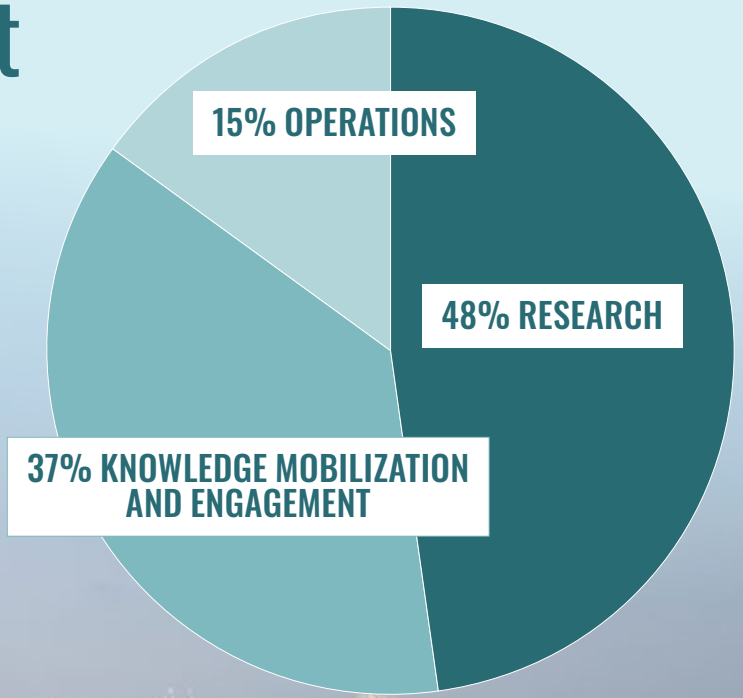
Royal Bank of Canada
Society of United Professionals
Stanley Horn Charitable Trust
TD
The Co-operators Group Limited
The Mariano Elia Foundation
Trottier Family Foundation
United Way East Ontario
Utilis Consulting
Vale
Vancity
Voilà
Wawanesa Insurance
WCPD Foundation

Financial snapshot

$8.5M annual operating budget



Activities and impact: By the numbers

9,700+
Mentions in the news media

74
Commentary and insight articles published

15
Reports and research papers published

940,000
Website page views

50,000+
Social media followers

20,000+
Newsletter subscribers

10
Webinars and events hosted

~2,000
Participants in webinars



Events and convening

Through major events, webinars, conferences, and international engagement in 2025–26, the Canadian Climate Institute shared evidence-based policy insights to advance practical climate solutions.

Marking five years of climate policy leadership

Toronto, Oct. 16, 2025

In October, more than 220 climate leaders from industry, business, Indigenous organizations, and government gathered in Toronto to celebrate the Institute's fifth anniversary. Together, we reflected on our shared progress, recognized the research that has informed Canada's climate policy conversation, and discussed the collective work ahead.

The gathering featured keynote addresses from the mayors of Montreal and Toronto, **Valérie Plante** and **Olivia Chow**, alongside video remarks from federal Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature **Julie Dabrusin**; B.C. Premier **David Eby**; Nova Scotia Minister of Environment and Climate Change **Tim Halman**; the U.K.'s Head of Mission for Clean Power, **Chris Stark**; and the former chair of France's Haut conseil pour le climat, **Corinne Le Quéré**.









Advancing climate policy in a changing world

Ottawa, Feb. 25, 2026



How can climate policy respond to a rapidly shifting global landscape shaped by geopolitical uncertainty, energy security challenges, and growing pressures on Canadian competitiveness? In February 2026, the Climate Institute brought together more than 150 participants from industry, academia, environmental organizations, Indigenous organizations, media, and government to discuss the question at an event titled *Climate Policy in a Changing World*.

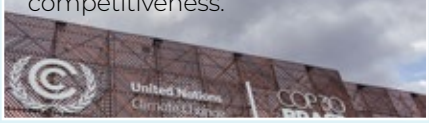
The Ottawa gathering featured a keynote address and fireside chat with **Michael Liebreich**. Founder of Bloomberg New Energy Finance and a renowned global expert on clean energy and transportation, smart infrastructure, technology, climate finance, and sustainable development, Liebreich made the case for pragmatic policies that focus on promoting the growth of clean energy rather than limiting fossil fuels.

The event also featured remarks from **Minister Dabrusin** and a moderated panel discussion with Canadian experts in electricity, consumer energy demand, and international carbon markets. Together, they explored how smart, forward-looking climate policies can strengthen economic resilience while accelerating Canada's transition to a low-carbon future.

Bringing Canadian expertise to COP30

Belém, Brazil, Nov. 10–21, 2025

In November, Climate Institute representatives participated in COP30 in Belém, Brazil, joining more than 45,000 delegates, policymakers, experts, and advocates from around the world. We contributed to panel discussions, stakeholder meetings, and media interviews exploring how climate policies can benefit the economy and increase Canada's global competitiveness.



Deepening conversations through webinars and public engagement

The Climate Institute hosted various webinars and roundtables in 2025–26, reaching more than 2,000 participants worldwide, including:

- **Two roundtables** in June 2025 showcased the latest Indigenous Perspectives case studies and attracted more than 1,000 registrants globally.
- **Three "Ask-Me-Anything" webinars** that examined Canada's latest emissions estimates and various aspects of industrial carbon pricing system design, and were attended by more than 500 participants.
- **A webinar and a roundtable** on our *Close to Home* report, released in February 2025, that examined the costs of building new homes in wildfire- or flood-prone areas.
- **A webinar** co-hosted with the Indigenous Power Coalition that drew nearly 300 attendees for a discussion of electricity transmission projects led by Indigenous nations.
- As well, Institute staff contributed to **more than 20 additional events and webinars** as keynote speakers, panelists, and presenters.

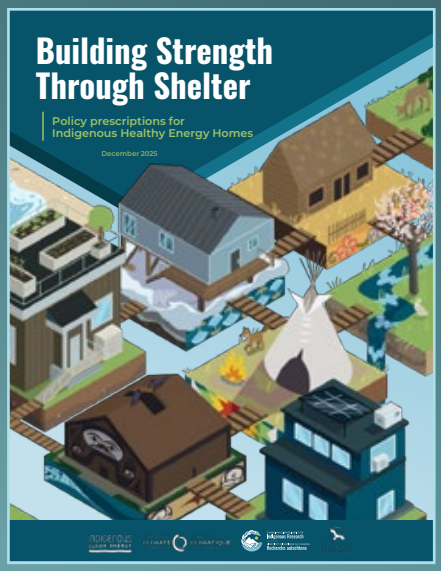
Major reports



June 2025



October 2025



December 2025



February 2026



February 2026

Research papers



November 2025



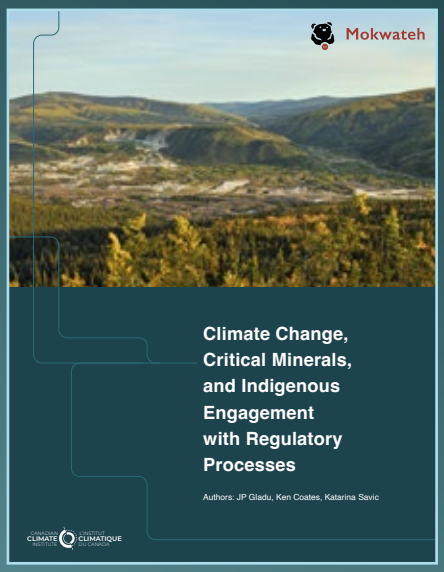
January 2026



February 2026



February 2026



February 2026

CANADIAN CLIMATE INSTITUTE
Indigenous Research
L'INSTITUT CLIMATIQUE DU CANADA
Recherche autochtone

CIER
Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources

Indigenous Perspectives 2025

We gratefully acknowledge the authors and researchers who developed original case studies through the 2025- 26 Indigenous Perspectives program, developed and presented in partnership with the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources.



Unlocking Canada's stranded renewable energies

Frank Busch, Joel Krupa, Kevin Hanna



Exploring Indigenous-led distributed energy systems in New Brunswick

Kevin Woods, Tracy Primeau, Claire Harris



Navigating climate change in the Indigenous economic ecosystem

Tasha Brooks, Leighton Gall



Moose protection and Anishnabe governance as climate policy

Shannon Chief, Jamie Vincent



Protecting Treaty 9 Lands and Waters

Michel Koostachin, Rick Cheechoo, Kerrie Blaise

Policies to help Canada prepare and prosper

Investing in climate adaptation helps protect Canadians from financial and physical harm, strengthens the economy, and avoids greater costs in the future.

In 2025, Canada experienced the second-worst wildfire season on record. Many Manitoba communities were evacuated while smoke blanketed major North American cities and reached as far as Europe. By September, 85 per cent of Canada was classified as abnormally dry or in drought conditions.

The costs and consequences of climate-driven disasters like these are growing. According to the Insurance Bureau of Canada, nine of the country's 10 costliest years for insured losses have occurred since 2013.

Extreme weather is already putting Canadians in harm's way, damaging homes and public infrastructure. It's also making life less affordable by disrupting supply chains and driving up costs for repairs, insurance, and emergency response.

The longer governments delay investments in adaptation and emissions reductions, the higher those costs will climb.

The Climate Institute's research examined these issues in greater depth throughout the year.

Our new report, ***Prepare or Repair***, examined the advantages of climate-proofing public infrastructure. The research found that proactive investments to adapt roads, bridges, storm sewers, and water systems for rising heat and heavier rainfall could save governments up to $9 billion annually through 2100.

Most of the upfront costs will fall on municipal governments, which own and operate more than 60 per cent of Canada's public infrastructure. However, because municipalities don't have the financial tools to fund large resilience upgrades, federal, provincial, and territorial government support for expanded municipal revenue-generating authority and enhanced funding are crucial.

Building on our February 2025 ***Close to Home*** report—which quantified the economic risks of building new homes in the paths of wildfires and floods—our experts also informed the national conversation on flooding and wildfire preparedness through op-eds, fact sheets, and dozens of media interviews, as well as high-profile speaking engagements.

We emphasized the importance of directing development away from high-risk areas, strengthening building codes and land-use planning, protecting existing at-risk homes and communities, improving forest and fuel management, supporting Indigenous fire stewardship practices, and expanding firefighting and emergency response capacity— all grounded in clear, evidence-based information on the climate change-risk connection that helped counter misinformation in the public debate.

Meanwhile, as governments emphasized trade diversification and economic resilience, we made the case that climate-proofing Canada's transportation and trade corridors should be a national economic priority. It is more important than ever that Canadian roads, railways, and ports keep goods moving, yet Canada's trade infrastructure is increasingly vulnerable to climate-fuelled disasters.



Cutting emissions and costs with evidence-based policies

Canada still has a path to a safer climate and more competitive economy. But progress hinges on accelerating investment in clean growth solutions and strengthening economically sound climate policy.

Industrial carbon pricing took centre stage in Canada's climate policy discussions in 2025–26. And our 440 Megatonnes team provided new research and analysis to quantify the emissions reductions and economic impacts a well-designed system can create.

We determined that establishing a minimum effective carbon price of $130 per tonne by 2030 would add less than 50 cents per barrel to average oil sands production costs—less than the cost of a single Timbit per barrel. As misinformation circulated over affordability implications, we crunched the numbers and found the effect on food prices would be similarly miniscule.

In February 2026, the Institute submitted detailed recommendations to the federal government on strengthening its industrial carbon pricing system—including giving provinces and territories flexibility in how they reach the minimum price and improving transparency and accountability in provincial systems.

Industrial carbon pricing is a critical policy tool to create certainty for business and encourage low-carbon projects. But our research shows it must be paired with complementary measures that drive the adoption of clean electricity and low-carbon technologies.

For example, we highlighted how provincial coal phase-outs in Alberta and Ontario helped drive major emission-reductions in the electricity sector—one of Canada's biggest emission reduction success stories. But without a strong federal standard, hard-earned emissions progress could be reversed by uneven provincial action and insufficient direction for electricity regulators.

Meanwhile, our analysis revealed that expanding Canada's liquefied natural gas (LNG) production and exports will increase domestic emissions, with ambiguous implications for global emissions.

We found that Canada's Clean Electricity Regulations lay a solid foundation for the clean electricity transition that will pay off in growing low-carbon industries, increasing affordability for ratepayers, and deepening emission reductions. Meanwhile, our research on electric vehicles showed that co-ordinated policies—including EV sales mandates, consumer incentives, charging infrastructure, and affordable vehicle supply—are all essential to accelerating adoption.

We also tracked rapid growth in heat pump adoption across Canada. This was particularly evident in Atlantic Canada and Quebec, where strong policy support and rising fuel costs have boosted uptake, helping households lower emissions while reducing energy costs.

And our research paper *Too Smart to Ignore* highlighted the growing importance of smart meters and technologies that shift electricity demand away from peak periods, allowing current grids to provide more electricity reliably and affordably.



Unlocking Canada's clean growth opportunities

Canada's clean growth potential is significant. But unlocking it will require co-ordinated investment, modern infrastructure planning, and deeper collaboration with Indigenous nations.

The past year provided clear evidence that a massive global energy transformation is underway. Solar power became the single largest contributor to the growth of energy supplies around the world. Battery storage expanded at the fastest rate ever. And electric vehicles represented one in four new car sales around the world.

These changes in global markets present substantial economic opportunities for Canada. As federal and provincial governments look for nation-building projects to strengthen economic resilience, boosting Canada's clean growth potential can offer new prosperity in the years to come.

In our ***Critical Path*** report, we looked at how Canada can secure its place in the global critical minerals race. Producing clean technologies like wind turbines, electric vehicles, batteries, and photovoltaic modules requires a substantial supply of minerals and metals such as copper, nickel, lithium, graphite, cobalt, and rare earth elements.

Canada holds vast stores of these resources but production remains far below the country's potential, largely due to investment uncertainty. To address this barrier, our report recommended: sharing the financial risk of investment; providing funding for Indigenous communities to engage and partner in critical mineral projects; strengthening mining regulations to reduce environmental risks and liabilities; and improving the efficiency of project reviews without diluting environmental safeguards or Indigenous consultations.

Three related research papers reinforced those findings. One outlined the major environmental risks of mining—including how tailings are managed, how mines are reclaimed, and how biodiversity impacts are handled—and called for stronger regulation and standards to minimize potential impacts.

A second showed that using electrification, cleaner grids, and emerging technologies to decarbonize mining—a traditionally energy-intensive industry—can enhance Canada's competitiveness as global buyers increasingly demand low-carbon supply chains.

The third examined Indigenous engagement in regulatory processes. Embedding Indigenous and treaty rights into resource development on Indigenous lands is essential. We identified persistent gaps in capacity and implementation, and pointed to Indigenous-led assessment and co-governance as more effective models.

Beyond mining, we also examined enabling systems for clean growth. We showed that expanding electricity transmission is essential to unlocking industrial electrification and clean power integration, while grid-scale batteries offer a cost-effective but under-deployed tool to improve reliability and make better use of existing electricity infrastructure.



Tracking Canada's climate progress

Canada's progress in reducing emissions stalled in 2025, putting the country's 2030 climate target out of reach.

In 2025, a new federal government entered office with a mandate to increase economic resilience and climate competitiveness, strengthen energy security, and address trade disputes and sovereignty threats. Our research throughout the year demonstrated that those priorities don't have to compromise Canada's climate progress—in fact, they can be mutually reinforcing.

We highlighted the progress made building out clean electricity. Electricity utilities across the country have procured or are in the process of procuring nearly 14,000 megawatts of non-hydro renewable energy and storage since 2023—the equivalent of adding more than a third of Ontario's total generating capacity to the grid. And there's healthy competition for those deals, with plenty of clean electricity projects ramping up.

We also continued tracking Canada's emissions. Our latest ***Early Estimate of National Emissions*** showed that Canada's reductions stalled in 2024. National emissions remained essentially unchanged from the previous year, at 694 megatonnes—just 8.5 per cent below 2005 levels.

In the leadup to COP30, our analysis also showed Canada's emissions progress lags behind its G7 peers. And in February 2026, the Institute's ***Independent Assessment*** of the federal government's 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan progress report found that federal and provincial policies are likely to deliver only half of the reductions required to hit the country's 2030 targets.

Recent policy reversals and weakened climate measures across the country have slowed progress and increased long-term economic risks. However, our assessment highlighted that progress is possible. While emissions from oil and gas production grew, emissions continued to decline modestly in electricity, buildings, and heavy industry.

Our research also showed that co-ordinated climate policy, cleaner electricity systems, and energy efficiency improvements have delivered meaningful reductions in Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, and Saskatchewan since 2005.

Canada is further from its climate targets than it was just two years ago. But as our analysis has made clear, correcting course won't just deliver better climate outcomes. It can also deliver lower energy bills, more comfortable homes, and more opportunities for Canadian businesses.



Amplifying Indigenous-led perspectives and climate solutions

Indigenous communities across Canada continue to demonstrate climate leadership: advancing clean energy solutions, strengthening climate resilience, and shaping the policies needed for a more sustainable future.

The Institute's Indigenous Research stream aims to centre Indigenous knowledge, research, and solutions in the Canadian climate policy discussion, and works in partnership with First Nations, Inuit and Métis researchers, knowledge holders, and organizations to advance Indigenous self-determination and climate solutions.

Indigenous communities are not just disproportionately affected by the impacts of climate change—they are also the largest asset owners of electricity infrastructure outside of Crown and private utilities, and at the forefront of major new clean energy, infrastructure, and resilience projects across the country.

In April 2025 we released ***Building Strength Through Shelter***, co-developed with Indigenous Clean Energy and supported by Shared Value Solutions, and promoted it through national media coverage. The report highlighted how inadequate housing continues to undermine health and well-being in Indigenous communities, while climate change intensifies risks from wildfire smoke, extreme heat, and infrastructure instability. It recommended a "Healthy Energy Homes" approach that combines energy efficiency, climate resiliency, and well-being.

By reducing pollution, lowering energy costs, and improving health outcomes, this approach reduces the total costs of inadequate housing, providing an estimated return of $6.79 in social benefits for every dollar invested.

To realize those benefits, the report called for co-ordinated action across federal, provincial, and territorial governments; long-term and flexible funding; and Indigenous-led policy development.

In June, we released the 2025 cohort of Indigenous Perspectives case studies, produced in partnership with the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources:

- **Unlocking Canada's Stranded Renewable Energies**
  Considerations for developing policy frameworks for Indigenous-inclusive electricity transmission projects
- **Exploring Indigenous-led Distributed Energy Systems in New Brunswick**
  How a Mi'kmaq community is using community-owned distributed energy systems to advance sustainability and achieve energy sovereignty
- **Navigating Climate Change in the Indigenous Economic Ecosystem**
  How the Cowichan Tribes in B.C. are championing sustainable practices that consider climate change, cultural heritage, and commercial fishing
- **Moose Protection and Anishnabe Governance as Climate Policy**
  Policy lessons and recommendations for advancing climate policy to protect moose within and beyond the Ottawa River watershed
- **Protecting Treaty 9 Lands and Waters**
  A look at Indigenous-led climate action to protect communities, lands, water, and culture in the Ring of Fire region

We shared these case studies through a two-part online roundtable that brought together Indigenous leaders, researchers, governments, industry, and civil society groups.

We followed this up in September with a national webinar co-hosted by the Indigenous Power Coalition on the policy changes needed to strengthen Indigenous participation and leadership in electricity transmission.

Attracting capital for low-carbon innovation

In a world of growing geopolitical and economic uncertainty, credible climate and sustainable finance guidelines are increasingly central to attracting investment, strengthening economic resilience, and enhancing Canada's long-term competitiveness.

Sustainable finance can accelerate the transition to clean energy by building climate impacts into investment decisions. However, in the wake of Donald Trump's re-election and rollbacks of U.S. climate action, many financial institutions and corporations also scaled back their public climate-related commitments.

In Canada, however, the federal government reaffirmed support for sustainable investment guidelines (commonly referred to as a taxonomy) as a financial tool to strengthen competitiveness, attract investment, and keep up with many of Canada's major trading partners that already have clear guidelines in place.

In December, it provided the Canadian Climate Institute, in partnership with Business Future Pathways—an investor-led initiative—with two years of seed funding to develop Canada's sustainable investment guidelines.

The taxonomy will establish science-based criteria for identifying "green" and "transition" investments that align with the country's climate and competitiveness goals. In doing so, it will create a common language for investors, improve market certainty, and help mobilize private capital toward clean growth opportunities.

The Institute's sustainable finance team is leading the research and technical work for the independent Taxonomy and Transition Planning Council, made up of leaders from finance, sustainable investment, academia, and policy. The Council will oversee the development and approval of a new Canadian sustainable finance taxonomy, as well as the creation of climate transition planning guidance for Canadian companies.

In addition to this work, our sustainable finance team jointly released ***Pathways to Competitiveness*** with Business Future Pathways, which explored the role of climate transition plans in Canada.

Businesses are facing increasing pressure from investors, insurers, clients, and regulators to show their plans to stay profitable amidst climate disruption. Our report discussed how transition planning can help companies address these concerns by integrating the biggest climate-related risks and opportunities into strategic and financial plans.

In a related piece, we detailed how Canada's climate policy landscape aligns with non-U.S. trading partners and can help Canadian firms diversify trade in rapidly evolving global markets. We also highlighted the role of blended finance tools—which use public funds to reduce project risks—to help attract private capital for major clean growth projects in areas such as electricity, transportation, and critical minerals.

Board of Directors

The Canadian Climate Institute's Board of Directors provides overall strategic direction and ensures the Climate Institute's operational excellence, transparency, and financial accountability. As of March 2026, Board members included:

Peter Nicholson (Chair)
Retired inaugural president of the Council of Canadian Academies
Annapolis Royal, NS

Alain Bourque
Directeur général
Ouranos
Montreal, QC

Jordyn Burnouf
Sustainable Energy & Sovereignty Specialist
Métis Nation-Saskatchewan
Saskatoon, SK

Mel Cappe
Professor, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy
University of Toronto
Toronto, ON

Catherine Cobden
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Canadian Steel Producers Association
Ottawa, ON

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Gordon R. Lambert
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GRL Collaboration for Sustainability
Calgary, AB

Bruce Lourie
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Connor MacDonald
Law student, McGill University; former Policy Advisor to the Leader of the Official Opposition (Canada)
Montréal, QC

Normand Mousseau
Professor of Physics
Université de Montréal
Directeur académique
l'institut de l'énergie Trottier
Montreal, QC

Sandra Odendahl
Senior Vice-President and Head of Sustainability and Diversity
Business Development Bank of Canada
Toronto, ON

Eme Onuoha
Managing Director, International Public Affairs
CPP Investments
Ottawa, ON

Mira Oreck
Executive Director
The Houssian Foundation
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Chris Ragan
Director, Max Bell School of Public Policy
McGill University
Montreal, QC

Tosh Southwick
Consultant and Founding Partner
IRP Consulting
Whitehorse, YT

Matt Wayland
Executive Assistant to the International Vice-President and Canadian Director of Government Relations
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Canada
Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON

2025–2026 Expert Panels

Our work is grounded in the best available research and evidence, and informed by a prominent group of experts from across Canada. Adaptation, Mitigation, and Clean Growth Expert Panels provide guidance and oversight of research scope and methods, technical review for major publications and policy recommendations, and advice to support the Institute's engagement and communications initiatives. Our Indigenous Research and Sustainable Finance programs rely on ongoing, targeted engagement with various technical experts and advisors.



Adaptation Panel

Jimena Eyzaguirre (Chair)
International Team Director and Senior Climate Change Adaptation Specialist
ESSA Technologies Ltd
Ottawa, ON

Mathieu Boudreault
Professor, Actuarial Science
University of Quebec
Montreal, QC

Daniel Henstra
Professor, Political Science
University of Waterloo
Waterloo, ON

Margot Hurlbert
Faculty, Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy
University of Regina
Regina, SK

Don Iveson
Executive Advisor for Climate Investing and Community Resilience
Co-operators
Edmonton, AB

Caroline Larrivée
Director of Scientific Programming
Ouranos–Consortium sur les changements climatiques
Montreal, QC

Alexandra Lesnikowski
Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Planning and Environment, Head of the Concordia Climate Change Adaptation Research Lab
Concordia University
Montreal, QC

Deborah McGregor
Canada Research Chair, Indigenous Environmental Justice
York University
Toronto, ON

Nancy Olewiler
Professor, School of Public Policy
Simon Fraser University
Vancouver, BC

Roger Street
Research Associate, Environmental Change Institute
University of Oxford
Oxford, UK

Enooyaq Sudlovenick
Research Scientist
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Charlottetown, PEI



Mitigation Panel

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University of British Columbia
Vancouver, BC

Louis Beaumier
Directeur exécutif
Institut de l'énergie Trottier
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