



Canadian Philanthropy Commitment
on Climate Change:

Invitation to Sign

What is the Canadian Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change?

The Canadian Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change is a call on all foundations and other funders in this land to signal their commitment to act on climate change regardless of their respective missions. Signatories of this Commitment will join a global community of foundations and other funders under the **#PhilanthropyForClimate** movement of philanthropic actors committing to act on climate, who have signed the International Climate Commitment or other national philanthropic pledges.

This Canadian Commitment is a joint initiative of Community Foundations Canada, Environment Funders Canada, Philanthropic Foundations Canada, and The Circle on Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples in Canada. We invite foundations and other funders **to read and sign the Commitment** and signal their commitment to implementation across the 7 pillars of action. We will work with signatory foundations to support them in their journey and provide them with resources and exchange and learning opportunities.



Canadian Climate Context: *Why we should act*

If left unaddressed, the impacts of climate change can undo our work to advance equity, health, poverty alleviation, economic prosperity, Indigenous and human rights, especially those who will be disproportionately affected - and all issues and communities on which we hope to have a positive impact as philanthropic actors.

Canada is the **third largest per capita emitter** of greenhouse gas emissions in the world. Emissions in Canada have increased by approximately 21% since 1990, despite a commitment to **reduce emissions by 30% compared to 2005 levels**. Our emissions' growth rate is higher than almost every other industrialized country including the U.S. where emissions **have grown by approximately only 2%** during the same timeframe. The UK, Germany and France have seen emissions decrease **by approximately 40%, 35% and 17%**, respectively, since 1990. Our emissions growth has been fueled by the extraction of natural resources and exploitation of lands, waters, and air. Reducing our emissions will take ingenuity and action from every sector, and as philanthropic actors we have an opportunity and an imperative to identify ways to contribute to the challenge. Taking action on the Commitment's 7 pillars - including by investing - as grantmakers and investors - in Indigenous leadership and stewardship, and in science-based mitigation strategies, will advance our impact.

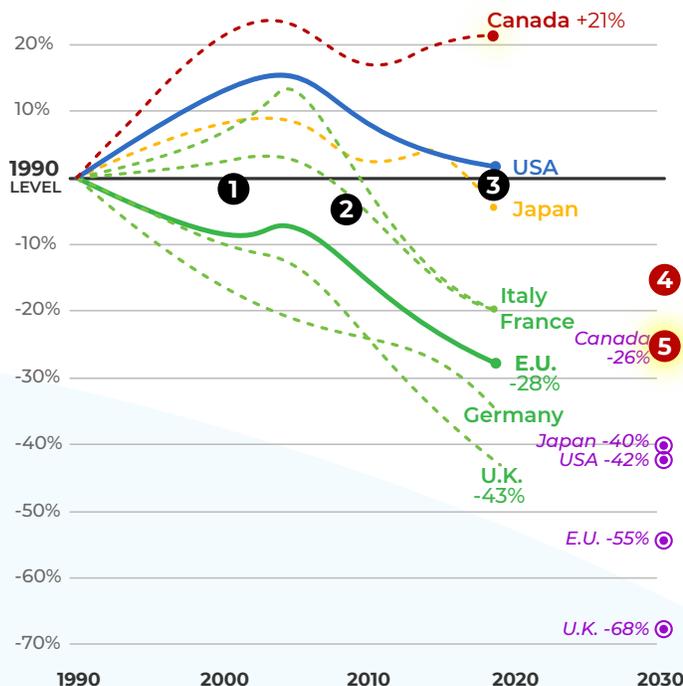
At the same time, Canada is **warming twice as fast as the rest of the world**. We are already experiencing the **drastic impacts of climate change**, from wildfires in the West, and droughts in the Prairies, to melting permafrost in the North and storms in the East. These impacts will continue to harm the wellbeing of the communities we are working



to serve as funders and philanthropic actors, especially those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change who are often those who contribute the least to the problem, including Indigenous, Black, racialized communities, young people, women and other marginalized groups.

CLIMATE POLLUTION 1990 - 2019

G7 NATIONS WITH EUROPEAN UNION



Canada missed commitments

1. UNFCCC indicative goal (1992): return to 1990 levels by 2000
2. Kyoto commitment (1997): -6% of 1990 levels by 2008-2012
3. Copenhagen commitment (2009): -17% of 2005 levels by 2020

Canada's recent commitments

4. Canada's original Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) (2015) - 30% of 2005 levels by 2030
5. **Canada's revised NDC (2021)** -40% to 45% of 2005 levels by 2030

G7 EMISSIONS & TARGETS, Historical emissions data from UNFCCC National Inventory Reports for 2021, Grey bullseyes are initial targets pledged in 2016, Purple bullseyes are updated targets with Canada's at -40% of 2005, Japan at -46% of 2013, and USA at -50% of 2005, CHART by Barry Saxifrage at VisualCarbon.org and NationalObserver.com. April 2022.

Addressing the threat and impacts of climate change presents an opportunity and an imperative for us as funders to invest in building inclusive, local well-being economies that support intergenerational community health, are regenerative and sustainable, and fundamentally improve the lives of the communities we serve.



The global pandemic impacts every aspect of Canadian society and, as such, requires a whole-of-sector response. Canadian philanthropy continues to respond to this emergency in unprecedented ways - we've made some strides in how we donate and we can continue to build on those changes. Now, in the face of the climate emergency, we must learn from that experience and step up to an even greater degree of magnitude - and likely for much longer.

What is the benefit to our organization in signing this Commitment?

In signing the Commitment, you join diverse peers across the country in signaling that you are ready to apply a climate lens to your work as a funder, you are ready to invest in action to mitigate and respond to the impacts of climate change, and you can inspire others to join. You will also gain access to resources designed to help you implement each of the 7 pillars of action, as well as peer support cohorts, and catered support and connections from our National Project Coordinator.

If you have already taken steps to consider climate change in your work, there is still benefit in joining the Commitment: we are building the implementation support program to help all funders advance in their climate action, regardless of where they are in their journey.



What support will you receive?

We are building catered support programming for funders who are 1) Getting Started, 2) Building Momentum, and 3) Demonstrating Leadership. This programming will include resources and materials, access to exclusive educational opportunities with partners, and convening cohorts for events on specific issues, including, for example, evaluating grantmaking, auditing operations, or assessing endowments and assets. The Coordinator will also be a resource for particular needs and requests, as desired.

Take a look at our Implementation Guide, which provides examples of actions you can take on each of the 7 Pillars of Action, if you're 1) Getting Started, 2) Building Momentum, and 3) Demonstrating Leadership. We will also provide examples from the first-hand experiences of other Canadian funders taking action on each of the pillars.



Who is behind the Canadian Commitment on Climate change?

This Canadian Commitment is a joint initiative of Community Foundations Canada, Environment Funders Canada, Philanthropic Foundations Canada, and The Circle on Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples in Canada. It builds on the International Commitment on Climate Change, which is coordinated by WINGS.

How do I sign?

You can visit philanthropyforclimate.ca and fill in the quick intake form, or simply reach out and email msabongui@pfc.ca. We will follow up with any materials you may need to seek Board approval, and can support you in that process. Once you have your organization's OK, you will be listed on philanthropyforclimate.ca as a Signatory, as well as included as a signatory to the global Commitment. * We will also send you a brief survey which will allow us to better identify ways to support your implementation journey.

* If you prefer to only be a signatory to the Canadian or to the global Commitment, email msabongui@pfc.ca and we can ensure this is the case.