



CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

AN URGENT CALL TO THE BC GOVERNMENT

2024 Progress Report

January 2025

Debris from destructive floods that damaged homes and businesses in Deep Cove during an atmospheric river event on October 19, 2024.

Photo: The Canadian Press /
Ethan Cairns

“There was more and more
water, and it wasn’t stopping.”

Christy Andersen
Deep Cove resident



Youth check out the flood damage in Deep Cove on October 22, 2024. The Insurance Bureau of Canada released an initial estimate of \$110 million in damages from October’s atmospheric river that caused widespread flooding in Coquitlam, Burnaby, Surrey, West Vancouver, North Vancouver, Lynn Valley, and Deep Cove.^{1,2}

Photo: The Canadian Press / Ethan Cairns

CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

AN URGENT CALL TO THE BC GOVERNMENT
2024 Progress Report

In September 2021, a broad coalition of 200 organizational signatories published an open letter calling on the BC government to commit to ten urgent climate actions to confront the climate emergency.

Three years later, the open letter has more than **600 signatories** representing over **2.2 million British Columbians**.


This report evaluates the BC government's progress on implementing these ten urgent climate actions over the last year.

Initial progress has stalled and emissions are rising as BC continues to subsidize and expand new fossil fuel infrastructure at the expense of everyday people and future generations.

CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

“We lost homes.”

Mark Greenberg
Venables Valley resident



The Shetland Creek wildfire destroyed at least 20 structures including six homes in the Venables Valley near Ashcroft in July 2024.³

Photo: BC Wildfire Service

Overall assessment of BC's Climate Emergency Response

The rising costs of climate change

Climate-related disasters continue to place immense financial and social burdens on British Columbians. In 2024, BC endured a deep freeze; “zombie” fires; deadly atmospheric rivers, floods, and mudslides; heatwaves, drought, and wildfires; and deadly wind storms, including a bomb cyclone with winds up to 170 km per hour—all impacting hundreds of thousands of people, and costing billions.

Beyond direct economic impacts, people living in communities across the province face displacement, loss of livelihoods, dangerous working conditions, and worsening public health outcomes due to prolonged exposure to smoke, extreme temperatures, severe weather events, and other climate-change related hazards. The climate crisis is extracting a heavy price: harming our economy, driving up food prices, driving up home insurance premiums, increasing energy costs, and pushing up health care costs.

BC is not a “climate leader” as it claims

British Columbia has failed to meet its emissions reduction targets for over a decade, with emissions increasing by 3.3% in 2022. BC's annual emissions are now **26% above** 1990 levels (see chart on page 6). In contrast, the European Union reduced emissions by 8% in 2023, and the EU's annual emissions are now **36% below** 1990 levels, demonstrating that rapid emissions reductions are possible.

As new liquefied natural gas (LNG) export projects like LNG Canada, Woodfibre LNG, and Cedar LNG come online, BC's emissions will continue to increase, locking in climate pollution for decades and making it impossible for BC to hit its climate targets. BC is moving in the wrong direction.

We need urgent climate action to immediately reduce BC's greenhouse gas emissions and end our reliance on fossil fuels to minimize harm for people and the planet.

Every fraction of a degree matters.

Power for the people... not polluting LNG exports

One of the most contentious aspects of BC's climate strategy is the allocation of public funds to electrify the oil and gas sector. If and when LNG projects are provided with public power at discount rates, all BC Hydro ratepayers will effectively be subsidizing these massive fossil fuel export projects.

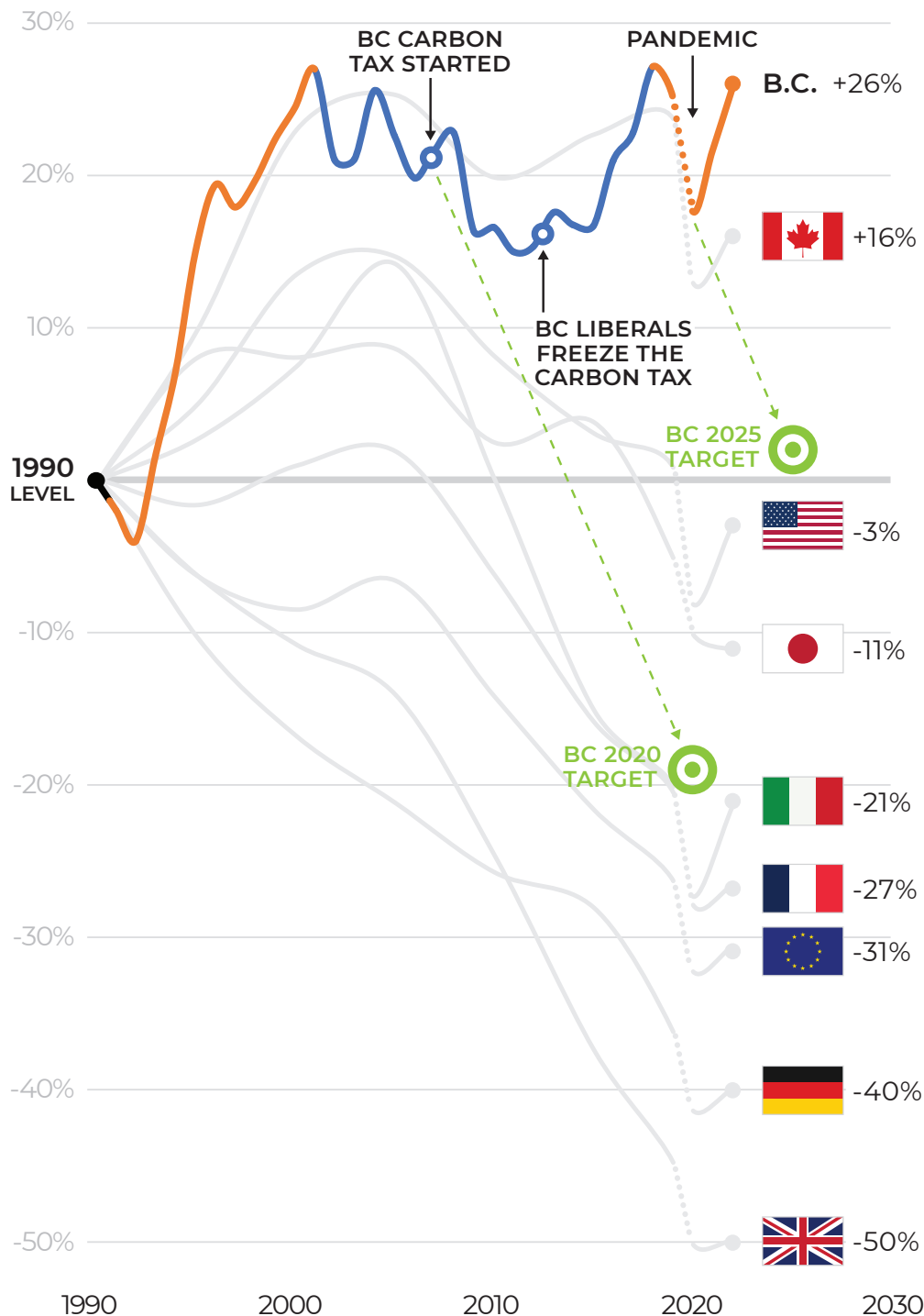
These subsidies, justified as a means to reduce emissions from a high-polluting industry, have sparked widespread criticism for perpetuating reliance on fossil fuel extraction. This risks diverting BC's limited energy resources away from other sectors like buildings and transportation to greenwash fossil fuel extraction.

Subsidizing electricity for LNG export projects prioritizes corporate profits over the public good and will increase the energy costs for everyday British Columbians.

BC CLIMATE POLLUTION & TARGETS

COMPARISON OF BC VERSUS G7 NATIONS

— SOCREDS — BC NDP — BC LIBERALS



Comparison of BC's greenhouse gas emissions with G7 Nations from 1990 to 2022. BC missed its 2020 target and is not on track to meet its 2025 target as emissions were 26% above 1990 levels in 2022. Black line is years Socred in power, orange line is years the BC NDP in power, blue line is years BC Liberals in power. Dotted lines show emissions reductions during the pandemic. Historical emissions data for G7 nations from UNFCCC National Inventory Reports for 2024. Adapted from Barry Saxifrage at VisualCarbon.org and NationalObserver.com, September 2024.

“Continuing with the development of LNG terminals, the permitting of LNG projects and the continuation of fracking while in the midst of the devastating climate emergency is irresponsible and destructive.

Premier Eby needs to move away from the fossil fuel industry and put the climate and environment first.”

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip
President of the
Union of BC Indian Chiefs

CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY


2024 PROGRESS REPORT FOR BC's CLIMATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

1  **FAIL**

Set binding climate pollution targets based on science and justice

2  **MINOR PROGRESS**

Invest in a thriving, regenerative, zero emissions economy

3  **FAIL**

Rapidly wind down all fossil fuel production and use

4  **MINOR PROGRESS**

End fossil fuel subsidies and make polluters pay

5  **MINOR PROGRESS**

Leave no one behind


6  **MINOR PROGRESS**

Protect and restore nature

2024 PROGRESS REPORT FOR BC's CLIMATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

7  **MINOR PROGRESS**

Invest in local, organic, regenerative agriculture and food systems

8  **MINOR PROGRESS**

Accelerate the transition to zero emission transportation

9  **MINOR PROGRESS**

Accelerate the transition to zero emission buildings

10  **FAIL**

Track and report progress on these actions every year

About the grades

- **FAIL:** No substantive policies or actions implemented to support this climate action, and the BC government is not on a path to succeed.
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** Some policies or actions are in progress to support this climate action.
- **MAJOR PROGRESS:** Significant policies or actions are in progress to support this climate action.
- **COMPLETE:** Success! Policies or actions have been implemented.
- **UNKNOWN:** Data currently unavailable or policies / actions pending.

T



Set binding climate targets based on science and justice

Reduce BC's greenhouse gas emissions by 10% per year below 2007 levels. Set binding reduction targets of 60% by 2030, and 100% by 2040 (below 2007 levels). Review and update targets regularly as climate science evolves.



Lytton residents are still displaced more than three years after extreme temperatures of 49.6°C sparked a wildfire that destroyed 90% of the town.

Photo: The Canadian Press / Marissa Tiel

2024 progress report for BC:

Current status: **FAIL**

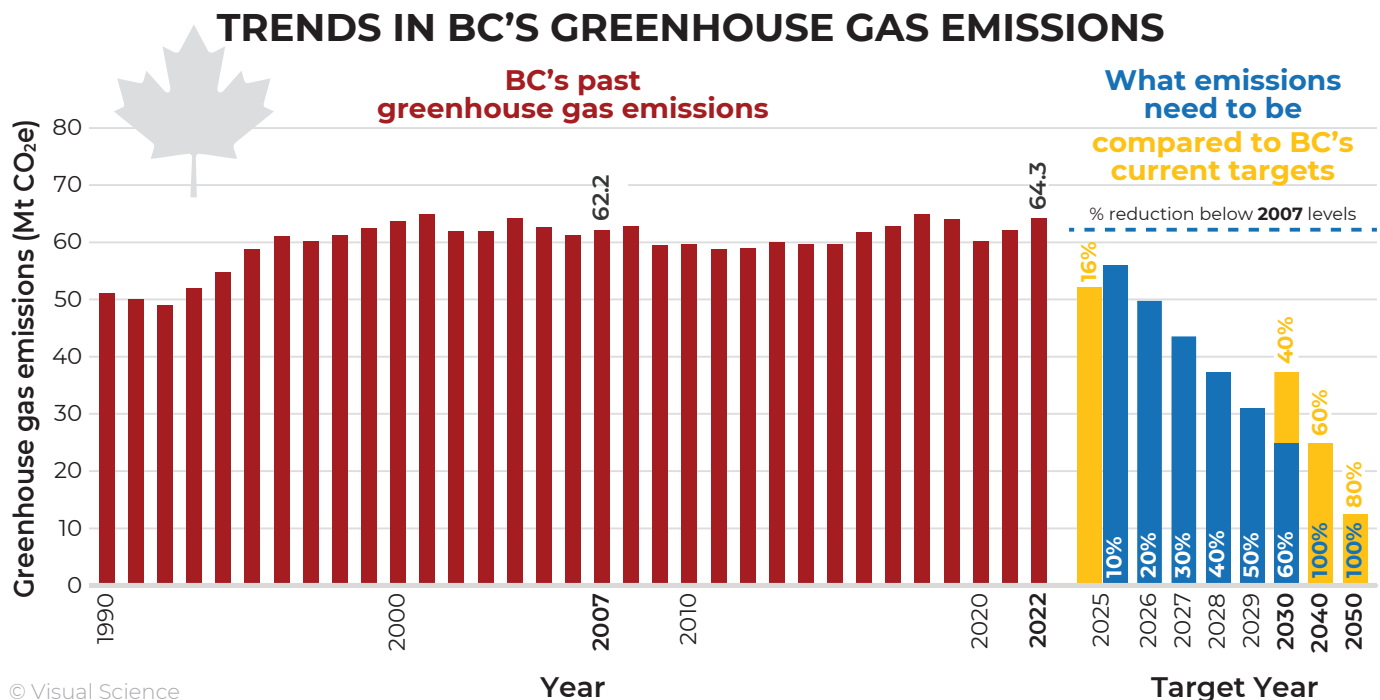
British Columbia has failed to meet its emission reduction targets for over a decade and is not on track to meet its 2025 target as emissions have increased again in 2022.⁴

To limit temperature rise to 1.5° Celsius, BC now needs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by roughly 10% per year until 2030 (up from 7.5% per year if action had started just two years earlier). Every year that BC delays urgent climate action means that we must cut emissions even more rapidly over shorter timeframes.

The current policies laid out in Clean BC's Roadmap to 2030 lack ambition and are unlikely to result in the urgent emissions reductions required.

Rationale

- **FAIL:** BC's greenhouse gas emissions increased by 3.3% in 2022 to 64.3 Mt CO₂e.
- **FAIL:** BC's legislated greenhouse gas reduction targets of 16% below 2007 levels by 2025, 40% by 2030, 60% by 2040, and 80% by 2050 are inadequate, and not aligned with science or justice. The targets are not binding.
- **FAIL:** Policies in CleanBC's Roadmap to 2030 do not extend past 2030. There is no plan to achieve the legislated 2025, 2040, or 2050 greenhouse gas reduction targets.
- **FAIL:** CleanBC's Roadmap to 2030 committed to net-zero by 2050; this target is yet to be legislated.



Left panel: Trends in BC's greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 to 2022 in million tonnes of CO₂-equivalent (red). BC's emissions have not decreased in over three decades. Right panel: Comparison of what BC's greenhouse gas emissions targets need to be (blue) versus BC's current targets (yellow).

Data source: National inventory report 1990–2022: greenhouse gas sources and sinks in Canada 2024.

2

\$ Invest in a thriving, regenerative, zero emissions economy

Invest 2% of BC's GDP (\$8.5 billion per year) to advance the zero emissions economy and create tens of thousands of good jobs. Spend what it takes to immediately reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create new economic institutions to get the job done. Ensure that the economic component of Aboriginal Title is recognized through the sharing of benefits and revenues that result.



Budget 2024 committed \$40 million in heat pump rebates. This program was expanded by \$250 million in July 2024 with Federal support.

Photo: Province of British Columbia

2024 progress report for BC:

Current status: **MINOR PROGRESS**

Former World Bank chief economist, Nicholas Stern, has recommended governments spend two per cent of GDP on climate-mitigation efforts.⁵ For BC, this now translates to about \$8.5 billion per year.

While spending on climate adaptation and mitigation has increased in the past year, Budget 2024 only modestly increased spending to reduce emissions, bringing the annual total to \$5.6 billion.⁶

A recent analysis shows BC has the economic means to increase public investments in urgent climate action, and fund the critical public services and infrastructure needed to rapidly reduce emissions and tackle worsening inequality.⁷

Rationale

- **MAJOR PROGRESS:** Invested 1.4% of BC's GDP to advance the zero emissions economy and create tens of thousands of good jobs. While more investment is needed, investments in renewable energy represent real progress.
- **FAIL:** No new economic institutions created to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** Some advancement to the Crown's recognition of the economic component of Aboriginal Title. The ratification of the Haida Title Lands Agreement is a welcome step towards joint management of natural resource and land use decisions.⁸ However, the economic self-determination of First Nations remains hindered by the lack of redress for historic extraction of wealth from First Nations lands and the continuity of deeply colonial resource policy and legislation.
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** BC Hydro issued a call for 3,000 gigawatt hours per year of renewable energy, and has selected nine wind power projects, eight of which have 51% equity stakes with First Nations.^{9,10}
- **MAJOR PROGRESS:** BC Hydro's updated 10-Year capital plan contains \$36 billion in regional and community infrastructure investments across BC, a 50% increase in investments over its previous capital plan.

“Together, we can build an electrical grid that powers our province, uplifts our communities, and protects our environment for generations to come.”¹¹

Kwatuuma Cole Sayers

Executive Director, Clean Energy Association of BC

3



Rapidly wind down all fossil fuel production and use

Immediately stop all new fossil fuel infrastructure including fracking, oil and gas pipelines, liquefied natural gas (LNG), and fossil fuel-derived hydrogen. Rapidly phase out and decommission all existing fossil fuel production and exports.



Indigenous opposition to the Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Pipeline project—the environmental assessment certificate for this project has expired after ten years but the company has asked for an extension.
Photo: Mike Graeme

2024 progress report for BC:

Current status: **FAIL**

BC has not developed any policies to limit the expansion of fracking or liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports, and continues to approve new fossil fuel infrastructure. LNG Canada is beginning operations, Woodfibre LNG is under construction, and Cedar LNG made a final investment decision in June 2024. If these three LNG export facilities are built and become operational, it will be impossible for BC to achieve its greenhouse gas reduction targets.

Rationale

- **FAIL:** Approved the Tilbury Marine Jetty to allow FortisBC to berth and load LNG carriers and bunker vessels in the Fraser River, in Delta.¹²
- **UNKNOWN:** Will BC let the Prince Rupert Gas Transmission pipeline permit expire?
- **UNKNOWN:** BC's plan to electrify the oil and gas sector risks diverting limited energy resources away from other sectors to greenwash ongoing fossil fuel extraction.
- **FAIL:** No clear policies to stop new fossil fuel infrastructure.
- **FAIL:** No plan to rapidly phase out and decommission existing fossil fuel production and exports.
- **FAIL:** Continued support for false solutions such as hydrogen; renewable gas; liquid biofuels; carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS); and carbon offsets, all of which prop up and greenwash fossil fuel extraction.
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** New methane regulations for the oil and gas sector will help to limit this climate pollutant, but implementation is too slow. Regulations must be strengthened and implemented sooner to keep pace with international best practices, and ensure effective compliance from industry.^{13,14}
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** BC Utilities Commission rejected FortisBC's plan to invest in LNG as part of its Long-term Gas Resource Plan, writing "*The BCUC was unable to determine whether pursuing sales or infrastructure investments in LNG would be beneficial to FortisBC customers or in the public interest.*"¹⁵
- **FAIL:** New LNG facilities must have a credible plan to be net zero by 2030,¹⁶ however "net zero" plans are often meaningless^{16,17} as they fail to include Scope 3 emissions, and rely on unproven and costly technology (CCUS)¹⁸ or carbon offsets which a recent analysis revealed are mostly worthless.¹⁹

“Rapidly phasing down fossil fuel use should be a top priority.”²⁰

2024 State of the Climate Report

4



End fossil fuel subsidies and make polluters pay

End all fossil fuel subsidies and financial incentives immediately. Ensure that those industries that profit from fossil fuel pollution pay their fair share of the resulting climate damage.



Electricity from the publicly-funded \$16 billion Site C Dam risks being diverted to greenwash LNG exports.

Photo: BC Hydro

2024 progress report for BC:

Current status: **MINOR PROGRESS**

BC remains the second largest provider of fossil fuel subsidies in Canada, second only to Alberta. Fossil fuel subsidies are expensive, incentivize pollution, and disadvantage cleaner energy like renewables or geothermal by creating market distortions.

The BC government's plan to build a \$3 billion transmission line to electrify LNG export projects could result in a new multi-billion dollar public subsidy for fossil fuels.²¹ Electricity would come in part from the publicly-funded \$16 billion Site C Dam project. This risks diverting BC's limited energy resources away from other sectors to greenwash fossil fuel extraction, funded by BC taxpayers and BC ratepayers.

The BC government is struggling to afford billions of dollars for floods and wildfire damage across the province as climate change worsens. BC needs to take legal action—through litigation and legislation—to hold the fossil fuel industry accountable for a fair share of climate costs as California and several other US states are doing and nine BC municipalities are working towards. The Provincial government must ensure that the fossil fuel industry pays a fair share, rather than leaving the costs entirely to taxpayers.

Rationale

- **UNKNOWN:** BC committed to review and phase out fossil fuel subsidies in 2022. This is a critical opportunity to eliminate remaining subsidies and financial incentives, and redirect public funding away from fossil fuels, however, there has been no public-facing progress on this review in 2024.
- **UNKNOWN:** BC's plan to electrify LNG export projects is potentially a new, multi-billion dollar public subsidy for fossil fuel companies.
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** The new output-based pricing system intended to reduce emissions from industry was watered down to exempt 65% of oil and gas emissions from the carbon tax, and will only increase by 1% per year with loopholes including banked credits, purchasing credits from other companies, and carbon offsets.²²
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** BC's carbon price increased to \$80/tonne of CO₂-equivalent emissions, and will rise by \$15/tonne each year until it hits \$170/tonne in 2030. Putting a price on carbon pollution is one of the most effective and economically efficient ways to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.²³
- **UNKNOWN:** Premier Eby promised to eliminate the carbon tax on consumers if the federal government drops the requirement for a consumer carbon tax. While promising that big polluters would pay their fair share, BC's policies on industrial carbon pricing need to be greatly strengthened.²⁴
- **FAIL:** The oil and gas industry is permitted to use billions of litres of fresh water for fracking at greatly subsidized rates.
- **FAIL:** BC has yet to sue fossil fuel companies to recover the costs of climate change.

5



Leave no one behind

Ensure a just transition for fossil fuel workers, resource-dependent communities, and Indigenous and remote communities impacted by fossil fuel production. It will be critical to collaborate in true partnership with Indigenous peoples in climate action. Prepare our communities for the impacts of the climate crisis to minimize human suffering and infrastructure damage. Support those most vulnerable to climate change impacts.



Doctors from the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE) warn that LNG is harming human health and reducing access to health services in communities near fossil fuel infrastructure.²⁶

Photo: CAPE

2024 progress report for BC:

Current status: **MINOR PROGRESS**

The climate emergency continues to deepen existing inequalities for the most vulnerable in our communities. To minimize human suffering, we must prioritize climate action in ways that promote equity, anti-racism, and social justice; support those that have been directly affected; and implement the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.

A new study of the 2021 heat dome—which killed 619 people in BC—has revealed that poverty and poor health increased the risk of mortality.²⁵ Climate change is a public health crisis, and doctors are warning that BC’s LNG industry is fuelling impacts across the province that increase healthcare system costs and reduce access to care.²⁶

BC needs a comprehensive plan for a just transition as we rapidly transition away from fossil fuels, and an independent health impact assessment of fossil fuel infrastructure.

Rationale

- **MAJOR PROGRESS:** The Emergency and Disaster Management Act was legislated in July, updating BC’s emergency management procedures and definitions, and giving First Nations self-governing authority over disaster response and prevention.
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** BC committed to spend \$1.3 billion over three years²⁷ to respond to climate-related disasters through adaptation planning—but this falls far short of the \$13 billion required for flood and wildfire protection.²⁸
- **UNKNOWN:** BC committed to implement all 20 recommendations from the 2023 BC Ombudsperson report that found emergency support programs for people displaced by extreme weather emergencies are outdated, inaccessible, under-resourced, and unfair.²⁹ Progress on implementation is unknown.
- **FAIL:** No plan to support fossil fuel workers, resource-dependent communities, vulnerable people, or Indigenous and remote communities in a just transition.
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** Budget 2024 committed \$3 million to YCC-BC, a non-profit running Youth Climate Corps programs in BC communities. More funding is needed to scale up training and employment to support urgent climate action.
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** BC is now implementing the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, but its application is slow and inconsistent, especially when in conflict with resource extraction interests.

“Climate change is one of the most urgent public health issues...”³⁰

Dr. Patricia Daly, Chief Medical Health Officer
Vancouver Coastal Health



Protect and restore nature

Protect 30% of terrestrial and marine ecosystems by 2030; support and invest in Indigenous-led conservation initiatives; restore natural ecosystems to enhance ecosystem functions and services, preserve biodiversity, increase carbon sequestration, and improve human and ecosystem resilience to climate impacts. Impose an immediate moratorium on the industrial logging of all old growth forests which are critical carbon sinks.

Grade 2 students connect with nature in Goldstream Provincial Park. Ecologists say less than 3% of BC's most productive old-growth forests are still standing.

Photo: Sierra Club BC



2024 progress report for BC:

Current status: **MINOR PROGRESS**

The 2023 Tripartite Framework Agreement on Nature Conservation between the Federal government, the BC government, and the First Nations Leadership Council outlines a pathway towards protecting 30% of lands across the province in partnership with Indigenous Peoples, with \$1+ billion of funding promised to focus on at-risk-ecosystems and species habitat. Achieving the 30 by 30 goal will require adding between 2 and 3 million hectares of new protected areas per year over the next five years, close to 10 times more than in 2024. A first progress report is now overdue.

Progress on BC's promise to fully implement the Old Growth Strategic review—including enacting Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health legislation—has stalled, but the BC NDP promised to protect old-growth and biodiversity in their election platform.

Rationale

- **MINOR PROGRESS:** Inspiring regional progress, especially new conservancies in Clayoquot Sound and the expansion of Klinse-Za / Twin Sisters Park, resulted in 300,000 hectares of newly protected areas in BC.
- **MAJOR PROGRESS:** In June 2024, federal, provincial, and Coastal First Nations announced a \$335 million funding agreement to enable permanent protection of marine ecosystems across 14,000 square kilometers in the Great Bear Sea region, the Central and North Coast of BC.³¹
- **MAJOR PROGRESS:** In July 2024, the BC government released its first Coastal Marine Strategy in partnership with First Nations. The strategy provides the province with better tools to manage cumulative impacts on the coast and ensure healthier oceans for both nature and people.³²
- **FAIL:** Despite promises, the Old Growth Strategic Review has no timeline for implementation. Old-growth logging data remains delayed, logging of at-risk old-growth forests continues, and more than half of the most at-risk old-growth forests recommended for deferral in 2021 remain open to logging.³³
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** Thousands of British Columbians commented in support of the draft Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health Framework in early 2024. The final framework and timelines leading to a law protecting at-risk species habitat and ecosystems should be a priority for this new government.

“If we don’t do these protected areas, you’re going to have nothing.”³⁴

Christine Smith-Martin
Great Bear Initiative-Coastal First Nations

7



Invest in local, organic, regenerative agriculture and food systems

Incentivize carbon storage in soil, restore biodiversity, and ensure food sovereignty and food security across the province. Increase consumption of plant-based foods, and reduce food waste. Support Indigenous communities that wish to maintain traditional food systems and enhance their food security.



Jennifer Deol, the co-owner of There and Back Again Farms, stands in the farm's peach orchard in Kelowna, BC. Unseasonably warm winter weather followed by a deep freeze in January reduced Okanagan stonefruit yield by 90%,³⁵ costing \$180 million in insured damages.³⁶

Photo: The Canadian Press / Aaron Hemens

2024 progress report for BC:

Current status: **MINOR PROGRESS**

Climate change is a major threat to food security in British Columbia: heatwaves, deep freezes, floods, severe drought, extreme storms, and wildfires are damaging crops and harming livestock; warmer stream temperatures and low water levels in streams and rivers continue to impact salmon spawning; and increasing ocean acidification is impacting coastal fisheries.

While some progress has been made to invest in local, organic, regenerative agriculture and food systems, ongoing and systemic inequality continues to undermine action.

Rationale

- **FAIL:** Food security investments have prioritized agri-tech and export-driven approaches to farming, which have little potential to reduce food system greenhouse gas emissions or enhance food security for British Columbians.³⁷
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** Feed BC programs integrated into elementary schools in all 60 school districts. No tracking data available yet.
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** Almost \$10 million was dedicated to supporting 66 Indigenous food security and food sovereignty projects. However, trying to survive grant-to-grant is not sustainable, and the BC Assembly of First Nations is calling on BC to provide core or multi-year funding.^{38,39}
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** Budget 2024 committed \$83 million to expand the Agriculture Water Infrastructure Program to help more farmers and ranchers effectively manage, collect, transport and store water for agriculture and irrigation purposes; and \$77 million to upgrade the Barrowtown pump station in Abbotsford.
- **FAIL:** The recommendations of the Regenerative Agriculture & Agritech report are too vague to rigorously track their implementation. If implemented, they would do little to enhance agricultural carbon sequestration and improve soil health and biodiversity through regenerative agriculture.⁴⁰
- **UNKNOWN:** Incomplete and inadequate analysis and reporting of agricultural greenhouse gas emissions and sequestration.⁴¹
- **FAIL:** No plan to increase consumption of plant-based foods.
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** Committed \$15 million to the Organics Funding Program to support organics infrastructure and collections programs in BC communities to increase organic waste diversion.
- **FAIL:** BC's rate of food insecurity rose from 17% in 2023 to 22% in 2024. Least affordable housing in the country continued to be a major contributing factor.⁴²
- **FAIL:** Least affordable farmland in the country contributes to eldest farm operators, lack of young farmers, farm consolidation, shift away from soil-based farming, and increasing dependence on temporary foreign workers on BC farms.^{43,44,45,46,47,48}

8



Accelerate the transition to zero emission transportation

Invest in affordable, accessible, and convenient public transit within and between all communities. Reallocate infrastructure funds from highway expansion to transit and active transportation (cycling, rolling, and walking). Mandate zero emissions for all new light vehicles by 2027, and all medium and heavy duty vehicles by 2030.



Inadequate funding for public transit results in long bus lines in Vancouver.

Photo: Movement YVR

2024 progress report for BC:

Current status: **MINOR PROGRESS**

Transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in BC at 36.2%⁴ and emissions in this sector are rising.⁴⁹ The Clean Transportation Action Plan (CTAP), which was scheduled for release in 2023, is overdue. The CTAP aims to reduce vehicle distance traveled 25% by 2030; shift to active transportation and transit; improve vehicle efficiency; and adopt zero-emission vehicles.

While BC's legislated target is for all new light-duty vehicles to be electric by 2035, with interim goals of 26% by 2026, and 90% by 2030, highway expansion continues to induce increased traffic. A rapid mode shift and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions is possible if we reallocate funding from highway expansion to public transit and active transportation within and between all communities.

Rationale

- **MINOR PROGRESS:** Budget 2024 committed \$454 million to expand transit infrastructure to support increased service and reduce traffic congestion, \$20 million for active transportation grants to communities, and \$30 million to continue the implementation of electric vehicle public charging infrastructure.
- **UNKNOWN:** The BC NDP's 2024 election platform promised to *"connect the province with an expanded express bus service... including a new fleet of express buses between key transportation hubs."* We hope to see this implemented.
- **UNKNOWN:** The ambitious Clean Transportation Action Plan has been delayed. No progress has been reported on new standards for medium and heavy duty vehicles, which if enacted, could be amongst the most ambitious in North America.
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** A well-designed, income adjusted e-bike rebate program was introduced, but due to inadequate funding it was oversubscribed on the first day. Unfortunately, the program excluded people with disabilities who want e-drives for wheelchairs or mobility scooters.
- **FAIL:** Emissions from transportation increased by 5% in 2022, and by 16% compared to 2007. While emissions from passenger vehicles decreased by 0.8%, freight emissions increased by 36%, and aviation / marine freight increased 110%.
- **FAIL:** Billions of dollars of infrastructure funds continue to be spent on highway expansion projects in areas with public transit service.
- **FAIL:** Transit operating services face a funding gap that will result in major service cuts in 2025 / 2026, and current funding levels don't meet demand.⁵⁰
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** Speed limiters set to 105 km/h are now required on most heavy trucks. This will reduce fossil fuel consumption and improve highway safety.
- **FAIL:** Amendments to legislation to allow wheelchair and mobility scooters use on bike and roll routes have been stalled, putting BC a decade behind Quebec in this simple climate justice action.

9

Accelerate the transition to zero emission buildings

Ban new natural gas connections to buildings by the end of 2025. Create a Crown Corporation to mobilize the workforce to retrofit all existing buildings, eliminate fossil fuel heating by 2035, and build new affordable zero emissions buildings.



Hundreds of Vancouver residents gathered outside City Hall to defeat the fossil fuel lobby's attempt to roll back Vancouver's gas-free buildings policy in November 2024.

Photo: Liz McDowell

2024 progress report for BC:

Current status **MINOR PROGRESS**

Emissions from buildings represent 14.6% of BC's total greenhouse gas emissions,⁴ primarily from space and water heating using fossil fuels. While local governments are demonstrating climate leadership by eliminating fossil fuel heating from new buildings, FortisBC is targeting electeds with disinformation. This highlights the need for a Province-wide policy to prevent FortisBC from expanding its gas network.

FortisBC continues to aggressively increase its customer base, with 9,664 new customers in 2023. In contrast, 9,586 households claimed the BC government's heat pump rebate.⁵¹ If these trends continue, BC will never hit its target to reduce emissions by 59–64% in Buildings & Communities by 2030.

Rationale

- **FAIL:** No commitment to end natural gas heating in new buildings until 2030. Attempts by FortisBC to reverse local government decisions to stop gas hookups for new buildings highlights the urgent need for provincial policy now.
- **MAJOR PROGRESS:** BCUC rejected FortisBC's proposal to make existing customers pay to deliver "100% renewable natural gas" to new customers.¹⁵
- **FAIL:** FortisBC is offering rebates of \$10,000 for dual-system electric heat pumps with gas back-up to incentivize customers to commit to gas.⁵² All rebates for gas appliances must be discontinued.
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** Budget 2024 committed \$40 million in heat pump rebates for low and middle income households to provide access to affordable, clean energy. This program was expanded by \$250 million in July 2024 with Federal support.⁵³
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** Multi-Unit Residential Building Retrofit Program committed \$61 million over three years to support rebates for heat pumps, EV chargers, solar panels, and energy efficiency upgrades.⁵⁴
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** BC Hydro is offering rebates of \$5,000 for solar panels and \$5,000 on battery storage systems for residential customers.⁵⁵ Diversification and decentralization of energy production is critical to improve energy security.
- **MINOR PROGRESS:** Approximately 254,000 heat pumps are installed in homes across BC (mostly in new builds), roughly equivalent to 13% of homes.⁵³
- **FAIL:** BC committed to provide guidance to phase in the Zero Carbon Step Code in 2024. This is now overdue.
- **FAIL:** No Crown Corporation created to mobilize the workforce to retrofit existing buildings, or to mass produce and install heat pumps or renewable energy.
- **FAIL:** No plan to eliminate fossil fuel heating by 2035.
- **FAIL:** No plan to phase out fossil fuel utilities.

10



Track and report progress on these actions every year

Embed all of these actions in legislation to ensure accountability, transparency, and inclusion. Establish rolling 5-year carbon budgets that decline over time towards zero emissions by 2040 or sooner.



Pollution from new fossil fuel infrastructure like Woodfibre LNG will make it impossible for BC to meet its climate targets.

Photo: Citizens Monitoring Group

2024 progress report for BC:

Current status: **FAIL**

BC's 2023 Climate Change Accountability Report confirmed that BC is still not on track to meet its climate targets in 2025 and 2030. As in previous years, the 2023 report highlighted good news (such as a greater share of electric vehicles) and downplayed or omitted risks (LNG export projects that will significantly increase emissions).⁵⁶

Meeting near-term targets is complicated by the fact that the province has been consistently late sharing annual greenhouse gas emissions data. In 2024, the delay is close to two years, and the Climate Change Accountability Report for 2024 has not yet been published. This hampers our ability to strengthen climate policies early enough and correct course to ensure we meet BC's climate targets.⁵⁷

The BC Supreme Court found that the provincial Climate Change Accountability Act does not require the government to tell British Columbians whether BC is on track to achieving its climate targets, and that BC's climate accountability legislation is not clear enough to outline the information necessary for the public to hold the government accountable and track progress on its targets.⁵⁸

Rationale

- **FAIL:** BC has not embedded a majority of the climate actions from the 2021 open letter in legislation or policy. While some climate action policies are underway, many are yet to be implemented or lack the ambition required, while existing policies such as the carbon tax are at risk of being scrapped.
- **FAIL:** BC's 2023 Climate Change Accountability Report⁵⁹ focuses on partial progress and largely omits risks on the path to targets (e.g. the risks to the climate that result from increased fracking and LNG expansion).
- **FAIL:** BC's 2023 Climate Change Accountability Report still fails to explain how BC's climate plans will achieve all legislated targets on the path to 2050. BC's estimate of its progress to the 2030 oil and gas sector target includes assumptions based on plans and policies that are still in development. This leaves the public unable to hold BC accountable for its progress (or lack of progress) to these targets.
- **FAIL:** BC has not established rolling 5-year carbon budgets.

“We haven't hit our climate targets... because politicians slow walk or reverse the policies that would get us to hit our targets.”⁶⁰

Mark Jaccard
Chair and CEO, BC Utilities Commission



Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples from around the world gather at the 2024 Peace and Unity Summit, hosted by Hereditary leaders.

Photo: Sonia Luokkala

BC First Nations Climate Strategy and Action Plan

First Nations in BC have responded to the impacts of environmental and climate change before, continue to be on the front lines today, and will continue to respond in the future. First Nations communities have unique strengths to address the climate crisis, despite facing disproportionate impacts from climate change.

BC First Nations continue to take leadership in climate research, policy, and solutions. We are witnessing First Nations women, youth, scientists, researchers, activists, leaders, Elders, and advocates stepping up to address the climate crisis, drawing on their knowledge, laws, language, and culture. This includes an increasing number of First Nations developing their own climate change strategies, drawing on traditional knowledge systems, laws, governance, and histories.

However, efforts in climate action cannot be disconnected from ongoing work to address the legacy of colonization and the laws, policies, and jurisdictional gaps that exist, affecting the ability of First Nations to exercise their inherent title and rights.

Many First Nations Elders and Knowledge Keepers acknowledge a failure to frame the climate crisis as a consequence of human values, a shift away from natural law and traditional knowledge. Addressing this imbalance requires reorienting the climate agenda towards meaningful approaches rooted in an understanding of and relationship with the Land and Water.

BC First Nations continue to build their capacity to respond to the climate emergency. Established climate action networks including the Indigenous Climate Action Network (I-CAN) and Resilience Climate Adaptation Network (RCAN) continue to support First Nations' capacity to protect their communities, territories, culture, health, and wellbeing from the impacts of climate change, centered around Indigenous knowledge and First Nations title and rights. The BC First Nations Climate Strategy and Action Plan continues to present a vision for First Nations to lead climate action in BC that affirms the inherent title, rights, and treaty rights of First Nations as a foundation for meaningful climate action.

“If we want to address climate change, and protect our land, air, and water, we must support the roles of First Nations in stewarding their territories.”

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip
President of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs

Another year... of devastating climate impacts in BC



Lowest snowpack since 1970



Extreme cold “deep freeze” in January



“Zombie” fires that kept burning over the winter



Atmospheric river events and extreme rainfall



Severe wind storms: wind speeds up to 170 km per hour



Landslides and mudslides



Record-breaking heatwaves



1,688 wildfires burning
1,081,136 hectares



Drought



Sea-level rise, storm surge, and coastal flooding



Severe floods

1.5°C

Global average temperatures hit **1.54°C of warming**

What is the **human cost of climate change** for everyday people in BC?



Social & economic impacts



Human health impacts



Worsening mental health due to climate stressors



Reduced supply of freshwater for people & agriculture



Crop damage and loss of land for food production



Loss of key fisheries



Reduced food security & increased food costs



Increased pest and disease outbreaks



Loss of critical ecosystem services



Dangerous working conditions



Increased risk of mortality / loss of life



Damage to physical infrastructure



Displacement due to evacuations or loss of homes



Loss of livelihoods



Increased socio-economic disparity




Rising insurance costs



Impacts to cultural traditions and knowledge systems



Reduced tourism and recreation



“We are on the brink of an irreversible climate disaster... Much of the very fabric of life on Earth is imperiled.”

2024 State of the Climate Report

Highschool students check out the damage to their local skatepark after a windstorm felled trees, damaging the tennis court and powerlines in Squamish in August 2024.

Photo: Tracey Saxby



Stop Woodfibre LNG and FortisBC from harm our

CLIMATE HEALTH SAFETY ECONOMY ENVIRONMENT

CANCEL THE PERMITS

MY SEA TO SKY

Indigenous land defenders, Tioutenaat Jackie Williams and her daughter Sewainchelwat Jaime Williams from Squamish Nation, called on witnesses as they called to cancel the permits for Woodfibre LNG and FortisBC's fracked gas pipeline on September 14, 2024.

Photo: Chad Jones

Now is the time to act:

An urgent need for climate leadership

The Meteorological Organization has issued another red alert as greenhouse gas emissions reached record highs, and global average temperatures hit 1.54°C of warming this year. The past ten years are now the warmest on record, and extreme weather is wreaking havoc on our communities.⁶¹

We reiterate the urgent calls for climate action outlined in the 2021 open letter, which has now been signed by 600+ organizations, businesses, labour unions, and faith groups representing over 2.2 million British Columbians.

As this newly elected BC government outlines its priorities for the next four years, we hold onto hope that it will demonstrate the bold leadership that is required to confront the climate emergency and transform CleanBC into a genuine climate emergency plan.

The review of CleanBC identified in the 2024 Co-operation and Responsible Government Accord⁶² between the BC NDP and BC Greens is a good first step, but fails to address the elephant in the room: that BC continues to subsidize and expand new fossil fuel infrastructure at the expense of everyday people and future generations.

Greenhouse gas emissions released now and over the next ten years will determine the severity of the climate crisis for future generations. Scientists are warning that the pace and scale of climate action are insufficient to tackle climate change⁶³ and worsening existing inequalities.⁶⁴ Everything we love is at risk.⁶⁵

We already know what we need to do: stop burning fossil fuels. The solutions we need already exist. All we need is the political will to implement them.

The BC government has an incredible opportunity to alleviate the costs of the climate crisis for all British Columbians by implementing the urgent climate actions outlined in this report. Together, we must ensure that people across the entire province can live safe and healthy lives.

“Our choices will reverberate for hundreds, even thousands of years.”⁶³

“The issue [of climate change] is not going away, and it will continue to be a global discussion. We are moving to a low carbon future, there’s just no debate about it.”

David Eby
Premier of British Columbia



Homes in Lytton are being rebuilt over three years after extreme heat sparked a deadly wildfire that destroyed 90% of the town.
Photo: The Canadian Press / Darryl Dyck

600+

agriculture, arts, business, community, education, environment, faith, food producers, health, housing, Indigenous, labour, local government, outdoor recreation, research, seniors, tourism, and youth organizations, representing over

2,200,000

British Columbians
call on the BC government to:

**CONFRONT THE
CLIMATE
EMERGENCY**



Members of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers picket outside the Canada Post Pacific Processing Centre, in Richmond BC, on November 27, 2024. Wildfire smoke, extreme temperatures, and severe weather events are resulting in dangerous working conditions and mental health impacts for workers.⁶⁶

Photo: The Canadian Press / Darryl Dyck



CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

AN URGENT CALL TO THE BC GOVERNMENT

Updated December 2024

Dear Premier Eby and the Government of BC,

We write on behalf of more than 600 diverse agriculture, arts, business, community, education, environment, faith, food producers, health, housing, Indigenous, labour, local government, outdoor recreation, research, seniors, tourism, and youth organizations who collectively represent over 2.2 million British Columbians.

We call on the BC government to recognize the urgency and alarm that people all over the province are feeling as the climate crisis directly impacts our communities and our health: deadly heat waves, wildfires, drought, floods, crop failure, fisheries collapse, and costly evacuations and infrastructure damage. These climate-related impacts are unprecedented and intensifying. Indigenous peoples stand to be disproportionately impacted by climate events despite successfully taking care of the land since time immemorial.

The latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is a 'code red' for humanity. The International Energy Agency has called on world governments to immediately stop investments in and approvals of new oil and gas projects.

The provincial government's CleanBC climate action plan is insufficient to limit warming to 1.5°C and will not keep British Columbians safe from the worst impacts of climate change.

We therefore urge the BC government to develop and implement a transformative climate emergency plan that recognizes the interconnected climate, ecological, and social crises; embeds equity, anti-racism, and social justice at its core; and upholds Indigenous Title and Rights, and Treaty Rights.

To implement the rapid systemic change that is required, we call on the provincial government to demonstrate the leadership necessary to confront the climate emergency, and immediately undertake the following 10 actions:



CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

1 Set binding climate targets based on science and justice
Reduce BC's greenhouse gas emissions by 10% per year below 2007 levels. Set binding reduction targets of 60% by 2030, and 100% by 2040 (below 2007 levels). Review and update targets regularly as climate science evolves.

2 Invest in a thriving, regenerative, zero emissions economy
Invest 2% of BC's GDP (\$8.5 billion per year) to advance the zero emissions economy and create tens of thousands of good jobs. Spend what it takes to immediately reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create new economic institutions to get the job done. Ensure that the economic component of Aboriginal Title is recognized through the sharing of benefits and revenues that result.

3 Rapidly wind down all fossil fuel production and use
Immediately stop all new fossil fuel infrastructure including fracking, oil and gas pipelines, liquefied natural gas (LNG), and fossil fuel-derived hydrogen. Rapidly phase out and decommission all existing fossil fuel production and exports.

4 End fossil fuel subsidies and make polluters pay
End all fossil fuel subsidies and financial incentives immediately. Ensure that those industries that profit from fossil fuel pollution pay their fair share of the resulting climate damage.

5 Leave no-one behind
Ensure a just transition for fossil fuel workers, resource-dependent communities, and Indigenous and remote communities impacted by fossil fuel production. It will be critical to collaborate in true partnership with Indigenous peoples in climate action. Prepare our communities for the impacts of the climate crisis to minimize human suffering and infrastructure damage. Support those most vulnerable to climate change impacts.



Photo: Gavin Phillips @ItsGavP

6 Protect and restore nature
Protect 30% of terrestrial and marine ecosystems by 2030; support and invest in Indigenous-led conservation initiatives; restore natural ecosystems to enhance ecosystem functions and services, preserve biodiversity, increase carbon sequestration, and improve human and ecosystem resilience to climate impacts. Impose an immediate moratorium on the industrial logging of all old growth forests which are critical carbon sinks.

7 Invest in local, organic, regenerative agriculture and food systems
Incentivize carbon storage in soil, restore biodiversity, and ensure food sovereignty and food security across the province. Increase consumption of plant-based foods, and reduce food waste. Support Indigenous communities that wish to maintain traditional food systems and enhance their food security.

8 Accelerate the transition to zero emission transportation
Invest in affordable, accessible, and convenient public transit within and between all communities. Reallocate infrastructure funds from highway expansion to transit and active transportation (cycling, rolling, and walking). Mandate zero emissions for all new light vehicles by 2027, and all medium and heavy duty vehicles by 2030.

9 Accelerate the transition to zero emission buildings
Ban new natural gas connections to buildings by the end of 2025. Create a Crown Corporation to mobilize the workforce to retrofit all existing buildings, eliminate fossil fuel heating by 2035, and build new affordable zero emissions buildings.

10 Track and report progress on these actions every year
Embed all of these actions in legislation to ensure accountability, transparency, and inclusion. Establish rolling 5-year carbon budgets that decline over time towards zero emissions by 2040 or sooner.

A VISION FOR OUR FUTURE

The climate emergency offers an unprecedented opportunity to generate new, vibrant economic and social wealth as we transform where our energy comes from and how it is used. It offers an opportunity to achieve energy security, ensure food security, develop more sustainable local economies and jobs, transform our buildings, redesign transportation, reduce pollution, improve human health and wellbeing, and enhance our quality of life. The transition from fossil fuels to a zero emissions economy has clear benefits for people and natural ecosystems, and is an opportunity to create a more prosperous, just, and equitable society.

Every person, every business, every industry, and every government has a role to play as we coordinate individual and collective actions to create a thriving, resilient, and regenerative society that respects its interdependence with healthy ecosystems and a safe climate.

British Columbia is positioned to become a visionary world leader and demonstrate that innovative and rapid change is possible as we transition to a zero emissions economy.

We urge you to seize these opportunities, and demonstrate to British Columbians that our government is indeed a true climate leader by implementing the 10 climate emergency actions set out in this letter.

We must act now.

Global temperatures have increased by more than 1.2°C from 1850 to 2023.

Image: Ed Hawkins, Show Your Stripes.

REFERENCES

OVERALL

International Energy Agency (2021) [Net Zero by 2050](#): a roadmap for the global energy sector. IEA, Paris.

International Energy Agency (2023) [Net Zero Roadmap: a global pathway to keep the 1.5°C goal in reach](#). 2023 Update. IEA, Paris. 226 pp.

IPCC (2018) [Global Warming of 1.5°C](#). An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty. 630 pp.

IPCC (2021) [Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis](#). Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Cambridge University Press.

IPCC (2022) [Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change](#). Working Group III contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. 2913 pp.

IPCC (2023) [Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report](#). Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland, 184 pp.

Ripple WJ et al (2020) [World Scientists' Warning of a Climate Emergency](#). BioScience, Volume 70, Issue 1, January 2020, Pages 8–12.

Ripple WJ et al (2021) [World Scientists' Warning of a Climate Emergency 2021](#). BioScience. Volume 71, Issue 9, September 2021, Pages 894–898.

Ripple WJ et al (2022) [World Scientists' Warning of a Climate Emergency 2022](#). BioScience. Volume 72, Issue 12, December 2022, Pages 1149–1155.

Ripple WJ et al (2023) [The 2023 state of the climate report: Entering uncharted territory](#). BioScience. Volume 73, Issue 12, December 2023, Pages 841–850.

Ripple WJ et al (2024) [The 2024 state of the climate report: Perilous times on planet Earth](#). BioScience 2024.

ABOUT

2024 PROGRESS REPORT

The urgent call to Confront the Climate Emergency was developed and issued by a broad network of 200 organizational signatories across British Columbia in September 2021.

The 2024 progress report evaluates the BC government's progress on implementing these ten urgent climate actions from November 2023 to December 2024, with input from key experts and signatories to the open letter.

The original open letter now has over 600 organizational signatories. To become a signatory to this open letter, or for more information about the joint BC Climate Emergency Campaign, visit:

<https://bcclimateemergency.ca/>

**BC Climate
Emergency
Campaign**



Inadequate funding for public transit results in long bus lines in Vancouver.

Photo: Movement YVR



REFERENCES

2024 PROGRESS REPORT

1. Insurance Bureau of Canada (2024) [Insured damage from October storms in Southern BC surpass \\$110 million](#). Website accessed 2024-12-05
2. Carey C (2024) [District of North Vancouver declares state of local emergency after atmospheric river flooding](#). City News 2024-10-20.
3. Judd A & Thibault A (2024) [‘We lost homes’: B.C. Venables Valley resident describes devastation of massive wildfire](#). Global News 2024-07-25
4. Government of Canada (2024) [Greenhouse gas emissions](#). Website accessed 2024-12-10
5. Stern N (2021) [G7 leadership for sustainable, resilient and inclusive economic recovery and growth](#): An independent report requested by the UK Prime Minister for the G7. The London School of Economics and Political Science. May 2021. 21 pp.
6. Government of British Columbia (2024) [Budget 2024](#). Website accessed 2024-12-03.
7. Hemingway A (2023) [Reality check: BC government can afford to make more investments in urgent social and environmental priorities](#). Policy Note 2023-10-31.
8. Government of British Columbia (2024) [Agreement on Haida Aboriginal Title](#). Website accessed 2024-11-28.
9. Government of British Columbia (2024) [BC Hydro receives strong response to call for clean electricity to power economy](#). Press release 2024-09-18.
10. Government of British Columbia (2024) [New wind projects will boost B.C.’s affordable clean-energy supply](#). Press release 2024-12-09.
11. Cole Sawyers K (2024) [Historic power deal puts Indigenous communities at heart of B.C.’s energy future](#). National Observer 2024-12-13.
12. Government of British Columbia (2024) [Ministers’ Reasons for Decision: Tilbury Marine Jetty Project](#). Report, 16 pp. 2024-03-27.
13. Pembina Institute (2024) [B.C. showing leadership on methane with measurement-informed regulations](#). Press release 2024-09-24.
14. Stand.earth (2024) [B.C. methane emission reduction: right track, but too slow](#). Press release 2024-09-12.
15. Labbé S (2024) [‘A big deal’: B.C. utility regulator rejects plan for mandatory gas hookups](#). Business in Vancouver 2024-03-20.
16. Dickie G and Jessop S (2023) [Fossil-fuel company net zero plans ‘largely meaningless,’ report says](#). Reuters 2023-06-13.
17. Worland J and El-Sheikh S (2022) [Corporate ‘Greenwashing’ Must End if World Hopes To Meet Climate Goals, U.N. Warns](#). Time 2022-11-08.
18. Jones J (2023) [Carbon capture projects are too costly, have ‘questionable’ benefits, report finds](#). The Globe & Mail 2023-09-07.
19. Greenfield P (2023) [Revealed: more than 90% of rainforest carbon offsets by biggest certifier are worthless, analysis shows](#). The Guardian 2023-01-18.
20. Ripple WJ et al (2024) [The 2024 state of the climate report: Perilous times on planet Earth](#). BioScience 2024.
21. Cox S (2024) [BC Hydro wants to remove new LNG transmission line from environmental assessment: confidential docs](#). The Narwhal 2024-03-05.
22. Lee M (2024) [How BC’s oil and gas industry sidestepped carbon pricing](#). Policy Note 2024-06-27.
23. CleanBC (2023) [Technical Backgrounder: B.C. Output-Based Pricing System](#). Report. 16 pp.
24. The Canadian Press (2024) [B.C. will scrap consumer carbon tax if Ottawa drops requirement](#). CBC News 2024-09-12.
25. The Canadian Press (2024) [Poverty the key factor in B.C. heat dome deaths: Study](#). Global News 2024-07-25.
26. Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (2024) Over 300 Doctors and Nurses agree: [BC Liquefied Natural Gas \(LNG\) is Harming our Healthcare System](#). Website accessed 2024-10-15. <https://ingandhealthcare.ca/>
27. Government of British Columbia (2024) [Budget 2024: Taking action for people, families in B.C.](#) Press release 2024-02-22.
28. Hoekstra G and Luymes G (2022) [We’re not prepared when extreme wildfires, flooding hit B.C. Here’s why](#). Vancouver Sun 2022-05-05.
29. BC Ombudsperson (2023) [Financial support programs for people displaced by extreme weather emergencies outdated and unfair: Ombudsperson report finds](#). Press release 2023-10-03.

30. Vancouver Coastal Health (2024) [Protecting Population Health in a Climate Emergency](#). Report, 58 pp.

31. The Canadian Press (2024) [\\$335M committed to protecting ecosystems off B.C. coast](#). CBC News 2024-06-25.

32. West Coast Environmental Law (2024) [First and long-overdue plan for the coast moves BC toward ocean health](#). Press release 2024-07-11.

33. Sierra Club BC (2024) [B.C. Old Growth Update needs short-term timelines for old-growth protection and forestry reforms](#). Press release 2024-05-22.

34. Kopecky A (2024) [On BC's North Coast, First Nations Are Building a New Economy](#). The Tyee 2024-11-20.

35. Joannou A (2024) [Record stone fruit losses forcing Okanagan farms to diversify](#). CBC News 2024-03-12.

36. Zapata K (2024) [January deep freeze cost \\$180M in insured damages across Western Canada](#). CBC News 2024-03-12.

37. Government of British Columbia (2024) [Ministry of Agriculture and Food, 2023/24 Annual Service Plan Report](#). Report, August 2024, 25 pp.

38. BC Assembly of First Nations (2024) [Resolution 10/2024, Support for Tea Creek to access funding](#). Resolution, 2024-03-08.

39. Kwetásel'wet Wood S (2024) [Tea Creek is growing food security for B.C. First Nations — but its own future is 'fragile'](#). The Narwhal 2024-10-24.

40. Government of British Columbia (2024) [Regenerative Agriculture and Agritech Can Help B.C. Achieve its Sustainable Agriculture Goals. Final Report and Recommendations](#). Report, 33 pp.

41. Norgaard et al., 2021. [Opportunity Assessment of British Columbia's Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Reductions and Carbon Sinks](#). Report 1: BC Agriculture GHG Emission Profile Analysis. University of British Columbia. 76 pp.

42. Food Banks Canada (2024) [Poverty Report Cards](#). Website accessed 2024-11-12.

43. Sussman et al., (2016) [Home on the Range: Cost Pressure and the Price of Farmland in Metro Vancouver](#). VanCity. Report 9 pp.

44. Statistics Canada (2022) [Characteristics of farm operators: Age, sex and number of operators on the farm, Census of Agriculture, 2021](#). Website accessed 2023-11-04.



Firefighters mop up the Shetland Creek wildfire.

Photo: BC Wildfire Service

45. Mitham P (2022) [BC Farm Count Shrinks](#). Country Life in BC. 2022-05-18.
46. Government of British Columbia (2022) [Fast Stats 2020: British Columbia's Agriculture, Food, and Seafood Sector](#). Report, January 2022. 52 pp.
47. Vescara Z (2023) [Temporary Foreign Workers Hit Record Levels in BC](#). The Tyee 2023-02-21.
48. Wichers G (2024) [Agriculture dodges temporary foreign worker clamp down](#). Canadian Cattlemen 2024-08-26.
49. Province of BC (2023) [Clean Transportation Action Plan: Request for Input](#). February 2023. 3 pp.
50. Translink (2024) [Half of transit services cut without new funding model](#). Press release 2024-07-25.
51. Klein S (2024) [The shameful rebate by Fortis to keep customers hooked on gas](#). National Observer 2024-07-31.
52. FortisBC (2024) [Dual fuel heating system rebate: electric heat pump combined with gas furnace](#). Website accessed 2024-12-03.
53. Government of British Columbia (2024) [More households saving money with expanded heat-pump program](#). Press release 2024-07-03.
54. Government of British Columbia (2024) [Retrofitting buildings will save people money on energy bills](#). Press release 2024-09-17.
55. BC Hydro (2024) [British Columbians can save up to \\$10,000 on eligible solar panels and battery storage](#). Press release 2024-07-24.
56. Ecojustice (2023) [Ecojustice reacts to B.C.'s Climate Change Accountability Report](#). Press release 2024-11-30.
57. Sierra Club BC (2024) [Sierra Club BC calls on BC government to reduce delays sharing emissions data](#). Press release 2024-11-08.
58. Ecojustice (2023) [B.C. Supreme Court hands down precedent-setting ruling on climate accountability case brought by environmental groups](#). Press release 2023-01-17.
59. Government of British Columbia (2023) [2023 Climate Change Accountability Report](#). Report, Clean BC, 56 pp.
60. CBC News (2024) [Critics slam Vancouver's reversal of ban on natural-gas heating in new homes](#). CBC News 2024-07-26
61. World Meteorological Organization (2024) [State of the Climate 2024 Update for COP29](#). Report, World Meteorological Organization WMO, 2024-11-11, 12 pp.
62. Government of British Columbia (2024) [Agreement in Principle: Term sheet for cooperation responsible government accord](#). 2024-12-12.
63. IPCC (2023) [Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report](#). Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland, 184 pp.
64. Ripple WJ et al (2022) [World Scientists' Warning of a Climate Emergency 2022](#). BioScience. Volume 72, Issue 12, December 2022, Pages 1149-1155.
65. Ripple WJ et al (2024) [The 2024 state of the climate report: Perilous times on planet Earth](#). BioScience 2024.
66. Dangerfield K (2024) ['A death trap': Striking Canada Post workers explain the job's toll on them](#). Global News 2024-12-13.
67. World Meteorological Organization (2024) [2024 is on track to be hottest year on record as warming temporarily hits 1.5°C](#). Press release 2024-11-11.

Synthesis and design by Visual Science

CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
 CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
 CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
 CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Warm weather and low snowpack contributed to poor snow sports conditions in Whistler BC on December 29, 2023.

Photo: The Canadian Press / Ethan Cairns



“Climate catastrophe is hammering health, widening inequalities, harming sustainable development, and rocking the foundations of peace. The vulnerable are hardest hit.”⁶⁷

António Guterres
Secretary General of the United Nations

**“The future of humanity hangs
in the balance.”**

2024 State of the Climate Report

CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
CONFRONT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY