

## Federal Environmental Priorities

The Government of Canada has established plans for sustainable development and climate change.<sup>1</sup>

The City of Saskatoon will continue to monitor the implementation of these activities to understand the impacts and opportunities of the federal plans to:

- Advance the use of carbon pricing to provide a market signal that encourages lower-emitting behaviours, products, and technologies. Canadian jurisdictions are required to have carbon pricing in place starting in 2018.
- Work with Canadians, provinces and territories, Indigenous Peoples, and municipalities to develop local and regional plans.
- Help Canadians shift to cleaner fuel sources.
- Increase Canada's low- or zero-emissions electricity supply:
  - Modernize the electricity systems through smart-grid technologies to expand, store, and make better use of renewables.
- Increase vehicle efficiency and move towards lower-emitting modes of transportation:
  - Set emission standards;
  - Put more zero-emission vehicles on the road;
  - Invest in public-transit upgrades and expansions; and
  - Develop a clean fuel standard to reduce emissions from fuels used in transportation, buildings and industry.
- Accelerate the adoption of transformative technologies and energy efficiency:
  - Support early-stage technology development;
  - Focus research on clean technology and environmental performance issues; and
  - Increase support to advance and commercialize innovative technologies.
- Make buildings and equipment more efficient:
  - Work to develop a "net-zero energy ready" model building code by 2030;
  - Develop a model code for existing buildings by 2022 to guide energy efficiency improvements when renovating buildings; and
  - Set new standards for heating equipment and other key technologies to the highest level of efficiency that is economically and technically achievable.
- Enhance sinks and address emissions from forests, agriculture and waste:
  - Increase stored carbon;
  - Increase the use of wood for construction;
  - Generate bioenergy and bio products; and
  - Advance innovation.
- Create a low-carbon industrial sector:
  - Reduce methane and hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) emissions;
  - Improve industrial energy efficiency; and
  - Invest in technology.

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<sup>1</sup> *Achieving a Sustainable Future: A Federal Sustainable Development Strategy for Canada, 2016-19* (including the Spring 2017 Update) [www.canada.ca/content/dam/themes/environment/documents/weather1/20170119-en.pdf](http://www.canada.ca/content/dam/themes/environment/documents/weather1/20170119-en.pdf)

- Lead by example through green and innovative government operations:
  - Be an early adopter of building standards to be established through the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change for all new government buildings and leases, where applicable;
  - Establish a complete and public inventory of federal GHG emissions and energy use;
  - Encourage departments to take action and innovate on sustainable workplace practices;
  - Review procurement practices to align with green objectives; and
  - Promote sustainable practices for employee travel— including business travel and commuting to work—such as teleconferencing, telecommuting, carpooling, and use of electric vehicles and public transportation. Where feasible, offer offsetting options to reduce the impact of government travel.
- Support businesses and Canadians to take action to reduce GHG emissions:
  - Provide energy efficiency programs and information;
  - Promote sustainable consumption and production;
  - Promote the use of lower-carbon-footprint materials in construction; and
  - Address GHG emissions from the rail sector.
- Conduct policy research and analysis to inform strategies to address climate change in different sectors, including agriculture, energy, and health.
- Commit funds towards working and partnering with others to reduce GHG emissions. For example, the 2016 Federal Budget provided:
  - \$2 billion over two years to establish a Low Carbon Economy Fund to support provincial and territorial actions that will significantly reduce GHG emissions;
  - \$75 million in new funding for local governments to address climate change; and
  - \$109.1 million over five years to advance domestic climate change objectives through science, data reporting, policy and regulations.