

# POW CANADA CLIMATE PLATFORM ANALYSIS

We referenced, and in some cases synthesized, platform evaluations by notable sources (listed below) to develop our rankings. Specifically, platforms were graded against the four major "asks" in POW Canada's Policy Statement: **Renewables**, **Carbon Pricing**, **Incentives** and **Empowering Canadians (Transition)**. We opted to include Environmental Protection/Protecting our Playgrounds as a fifth category (**Environment**) as it's an important element of an overall climate plan and resonates deeply with the outdoor community.

## Sites Referenced for Evaluation

<https://election2019envirosurvey.ca/summary/>

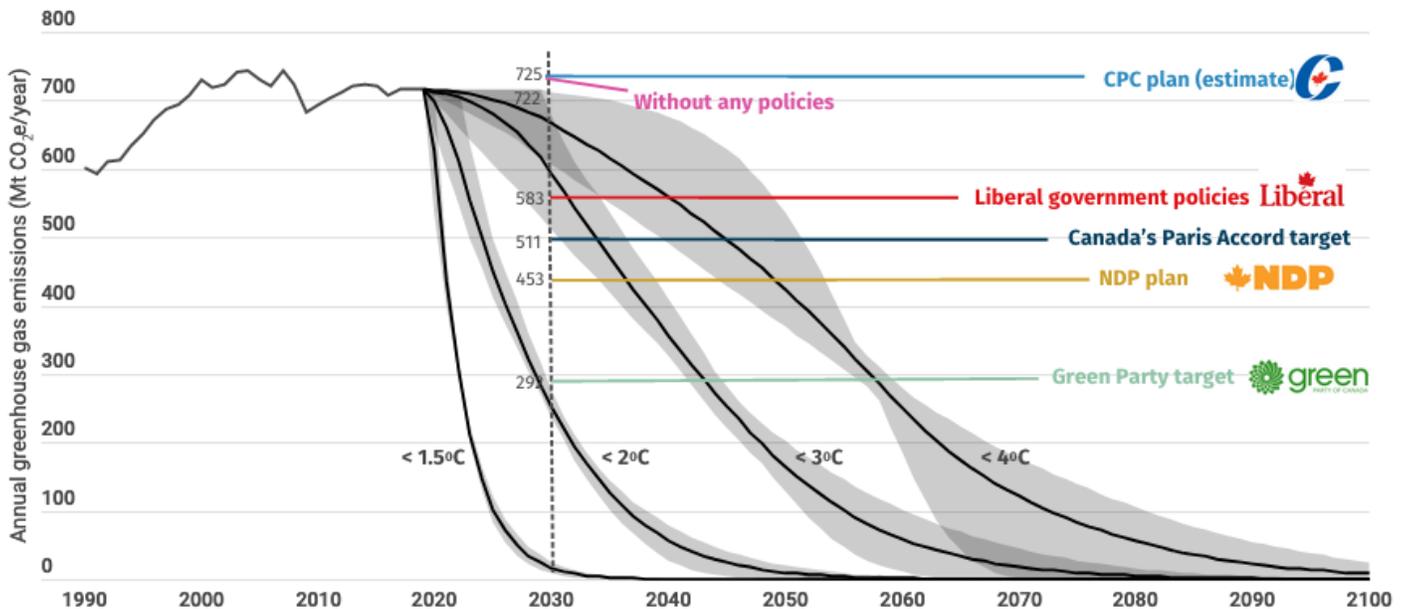
<https://www.shakeuptheestab.org/vote>

<https://www.macleans.ca/politics/2019-federal-election-platform-guide-where-the-parties-stand-on-everything/#climate>

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-federal-election-2019-where-the-four-main-parties-stand-on-climate/>

In our review of Federal Party Platforms, we appreciate ambition on the climate file, but value specific actions and feasibility even more. The world has had aspirational targets and rhetoric for two decades. The climate crisis demands bold action and investment, and so must we.

**Figure 1**  
**Canadian Emissions Pathways**



Source: <https://simondonner.com/2019/09/27/canadas-climate-plans/>

# Conservatives:

Platform: <http://s3.documentcloud.org/documents/6162205/A-Real-Plan.pdf>

## Overall Grade D-

The Conservative's "Real Plan" would decrease Canada's capacity to meet its Paris Agreement targets and reduce Canadian's ability to succeed in the low carbon economy of the future. Conservatives plan to increase investment into Canada's oil and gas development and have no plans to help Canadians transition towards a low-carbon economy.

### Emission Target Ambition = D

Retain Paris Agreement target of 30% reduction below 2005 levels by 2030, but evaluations of actual plan indicate it would increase the gap between Canada's current emissions and make it virtually impossible for any future government to achieve Canada's Paris Agreement commitments.

### Renewables: D

- ✓ Increase development of oil and gas pipelines in Canada, including creating of national oil & gas corridor.
- ✓ Increase investment in carbon capture and storage research and development.
- ✓ Increase investment in electric transport.

### Carbon Pricing: D

- ✓ Remove carbon tax.
- ✓ GHG emitters exceeding 40Mt emission cap will pay into green investment fund, but no indication of who will be subject to this, or cap enforcement or penalties.

### Incentives: C

- ✓ Remove GST from heating bills.
- ✓ Invest \$250M in green tech and innovation fund to support new green companies and reduce emissions by 101Mt.
- ✓ Reduce business tax to 5% for companies using "green patent credit."
- ✓ \$900M annually in green home tax credits.

\*For comparison, according to the International Institute for Sustainable Development, federal government subsidies for fossil fuels are estimated at several hundred million dollars a year (and Federal-Provincial subsidies combined are in the billions of dollar per year), and this does not include figures regarding the purchase of Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Pipeline by the federal government.

### Transition: F

- ✓ Create online hub for green jobs
- ✓ Would not commit to extending the Task Force on Just Transition to include workers and families in all fossil fuel industries.

### Environment: D

- ✓ Repeal Bill C-69 to remove environmental assessments required for oil & gas projects
- ✓ increase tanker traffic on West Coast

## NDP:

Platform: <https://action.ndp.ca/page/-/2019/Q2/Power-to-change-full-announcement.pdf>

### Overall Grade: A-

The NDP's "Power to Change" Plan would keep a price on carbon, remove fossil fuel subsidies and transfer investment to low carbon economy, increase EV incentives, meet and exceed emission reduction targets in Paris Agreement, and keep our government accountable through a just transition to a low-carbon future

#### Emission Target Ambition = A

A 38% reduction below 2005 levels by 2030, consistent with a path toward the more ambitious 1.5°C target of the Paris Climate Agreement. No specified long-term emission target. Creation of an independent Climate Accountability Office to regularly monitor progress on climate goals.

#### Renewables: A-

- ✓ Reform Export Development to focus support on sustainable energy projects over petroleum-based projects.
- ✓ Commit \$3.5B to power Canada with 100% carbon-free electricity by 2030 and 100% emission-free electricity by 2050
- ✓ Electrify transit including entire government fleet, EV charging network expansion
- ✓ Invest \$6.5B in clean public transport including high frequency rail, and develop Canadian cycling strategy

#### Carbon Pricing: A

- ✓ Continue Carbon Tax with alterations, heavy emitters will pay tax on emissions over 70% of industry average and rebates shifting towards benefiting lower income households
- ✓ Remove subsidies from all fossil fuels, instead directing funds into low carbon initiatives

#### Incentives: A-

- ✓ Establish \$3B publicly funded Canadian Climate Bank to spur investment in the low carbon economy, accelerate clean tech, jobs and economic development
- ✓ \$5000 federal incentive for zero emission cars. To grow to \$15,000. \$600 incentive for charging stations

#### Transitions: A

- ✓ \$15B for creating 300,000 jobs that drive the low carbon transition, with plans to help Alberta oil & gas workers transition
- ✓ Prioritize made-in-Canada renewables
- ✓ \$2.5B for disaster relief and climate adaptations to infrastructure
- ✓ Retrofit all buildings by 2050
- ✓ Low Carbon Industrial Strategy to help industries such as agriculture transition
- ✓ \$350M to Indigenous environmental guardian program and inclusion of indigenous in climate change adaptation and mitigation decision making.
- ✓ Doesn't support fracking for further fossil fuel development
- ✓ Would commit to extending the Task Force on Just Transition to include workers and families in all fossil fuel industries.

#### Environment: A-

- ✓ Supports Environmental Bill of Rights
- ✓ Protect 30% of land, water, and ocean by 2030
- ✓ Invest \$400M in forest management and reforestation
- ✓ Ban single use plastics by 2022

## Green:

Platform: <https://www.greenparty.ca/en/platform>

### Overall Grade: A

The Green's "Mission Possible" plan is comprehensive and sets Canadians up to exceed in a sustainable and low-carbon future. It promises to keep and increase carbon pricing, transition to 100% renewables by 2030, shift fossil fuel subsidies to grid and renewable investment, ban purchase of combustion engines by 2030 and significantly increase EV incentives, make major investments in Alberta to help with "just transition", and meet and exceed emission reduction targets in Paris Agreement.

#### Emission Targets Ambition: A+

Promises the deepest emission cuts of all the Party Platforms and the only 2030 target that is compatible with the Paris Climate Agreement target of limiting global temperature increase to 2°C. Exceed Canada's Paris Agreements commitments with 60% reduction from 2005 levels by 2030 and achieve zero emissions by 2050. Establish cross party cabinet to combat climate change.

#### Renewables: A

- ✓ 100% renewable energy by 2030 including connecting grids across the country
- ✓ \$600-\$720M investment into rail transit and transport
- ✓ Increase funding for walking, biking, and vehicle sharing infrastructure
- ✓ Ban purchase of combustion engine vehicles by 2030 and make electric vehicles affordable
- ✓ Use old wells for geothermal energy, and replace Alberta coal with wind and solar

#### Carbon Pricing: A+

- ✓ Eliminate fossil fuel subsidies, redirect funds to Canadian grid strategy and renewable transition
- ✓ Maintain carbon tax and increase price by \$10/tonne annually up to \$130/tonne in 2030
- ✓ CCP Investment Board to require divestment of coal, oil & gas shares

#### Incentives: A-

- ✓ Grants, interest free loans, repayment programs on energy savings
- ✓ Exempt new and used electric vehicles from federal sales tax
- ✓ Municipal access to superfunds of \$500M to fund "Green City" initiatives
- ✓ Retrofit all buildings by 2030

#### Transition: A

- ✓ Establish Federal Ministry of Energy Transition Plan and re-establish Ambassador for Environment
- ✓ \$1B annually to fund youth jobs in community and environmental services
- ✓ Create Canadian Sustainable Generations Fund for trades, apprenticeships and education required for transition to green economy including 4 million new jobs created for trades people through retrofitting and support Force of Just Transition for Coal Power Workers and Communities
- ✓ \$150M to add scientific staff to Environment Canada, enhance and establish climate related funding for research and restore funding to climate science
- ✓ Revamp national trade policy to align with climate change
- ✓ \$100M annually for indigenous led protected areas, initiate indigenous partnership on renewable energy use.
- ✓ Ban fracking, get off foreign oil as soon as possible, and off all oil by 2050
- ✓ Would commit to extending the Task Force on Just Transition to include workers in all fossil fuel industries.

#### Environment: A

- ✓ Supports Environmental Bill of Rights
- ✓ Protect 30% of land, water and ocean by 2030
- ✓ Phase out export of waste with zero waste goals and single use plastic ban
- ✓ Restore carbon sinks through soil regeneration and reforestation
- ✓ Restore Canadian Environmental Assessment Act

## Liberal:

Platform: So far have not released their full climate platform. This comparison is based on existing climate policy and verbal pledges by Party Leader Justin Trudeau and other liberal officials.

**Overall Grade: B+**

Emission Targets Ambition: A-

Maintain Paris Agreement commitment of 30% reduction below 2005 levels by 2030. Implement legally binding 5-year milestones to reach net zero emissions in 2050, which is roughly compatible with the Paris Climate Agreement +2°C policy goal.

Renewables: C

- ✓ Approved and purchased the Trans Mountain pipeline.
- ✓ Fuel standard to limit carbon content in fuels, phase out coal by 2030 to meet G20 commitment.
- ✓ Power Canada with 90% with clean energy by 2030, including 100% of federal buildings by 2020.
- ✓ Investment in electrified public transit.

Carbon Pricing: A-

- ✓ Implemented carbon tax at \$20/tonne rising to \$50/tonne by 2022.  
\*UN economists say price must be \$135/tonne to be effective.

Incentives: A-

- ✓ \$5000 grants for zero-emission homes and Interest free loans up to \$40,000 on home retrofits.
- ✓ \$5000 rebate on electric vehicles and improve charging network.
- ✓ Energy savings rebate program to all Canadians.
- ✓ Cut corporate tax in half for companies with zero emissions.
- ✓ \$22M in funding for businesses working on bringing clean tech and climate solutions to market.
- ✓ Cut corporate taxes in half for clean tech businesses.
- ✓ \$2B Low Carbon Economy Trust to fund carbon emission reduction projects  
\*For comparison, according to the International Institute for Sustainable Development, federal government subsidies for fossil fuels are estimated at several hundred million dollars a year (and Federal-Provincial subsidies combined are in the billions of dollar per year), and this does not include figures regarding the purchase of Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Pipeline by the federal government.

Transition: B

- ✓ \$100M in skills training for workers in clean development
- ✓ Energy efficient social housing development
- ✓ Support rural Canadians reduction of diesel reliance
- ✓ Support climate education, scientific research and indigenous groups involvement
- ✓ Insurance program for natural disasters
- ✓ Would commit to extending the Task Force on Just Transition to include workers and families in all fossil fuel industries.

Environment: A-

Supports the Environmental Bill of Rights

- ✓ \$2.6B to protect 5000 hectares of shoreline, \$4.3M to conservation projects
- ✓ Ban single use plastics by 2021
- ✓ Plant 2 billion trees, restore forests, grasslands, agricultural lands, wetlands and coastal areas as natural climate solutions.