



Elbows Up Climate Mayors

Issue a Climate Madness Manifesto - Analysis

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As reported in the National Observer,¹ just prior to the recent Federation of Canadian Municipalities conference in Edmonton, there was a meeting of some 300 mayors and councillors who claim to represent half the population of Canada, and who promoted an exotic 5-part “*Elbows up for Climate*” plan. The ‘plan’ has no cost-benefit analysis, and based on the National Observer report, the mayors are putting forward much dis/misinformation on climate change and wildfire.

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The “Elbows Up for Climate” Goals

The “Elbows Up for Climate” manifesto has five policy aims:

- a national clean energy grid in every direction,
- the building of at least 2 million net-zero below-market homes,
- mass retrofits,
- heat pumps and solar installations,
- a national high-speed rail system connected to local electric buses and a
- “national resilience, response and recovery strategy.”

Voters, especially in Edmonton, have been betrayed, as have major industries by the claim of “Elbows Up” mayors that:

“We are asking the federal government to stand with us: to reject fossil fuel projects that divide us, and get to work on practical and popular projects that won’t burn down our country – but build us up, Canada Strong.”

Thousands of people work in oil, gas, and transportation/distribution in the Edmonton region, which is the “Gateway to the North” – only possible with fossil fuels.

Further, the “Elbows Up” mayors are demanding a ‘windfall’ tax on oil and gas companies, which are only benefitting due to geopolitical situations beyond their control. Most of these companies suffered tremendously under the unchecked ENGO activism of the “Tar Sands Campaign” against Alberta’s resource industry. Canadian petroleum companies also suffered from 2015 to 2020 due to the global OPEC-driven price crash in late 2014 and the lack of pipeline which caused Canadian oil price discounts of US\$50/bbl. Producers suffered negative rates of returns and wrote down tens of billions in asset values. Those companies did not get government funded relief then; why should they be extorted now, simply because “Elbows Up” mayors have grandiose ideas, but no way to finance them?

This report assesses the “Elbows Up” mayors’ plan, offering a reality check, and illustrating how taxpayers are unwittingly financing climate activism like this, despite it being done without their approval and against the interests of the country, the province, and the cities of the mayors quoted in the National Observer story.

¹ <https://www.nationalobserver.com/2026/06/08/news/canada-city-mayors-climate-action#>
<https://www.nationalobserver.com/2026/06/08/news/canada-city-mayors-climate-action#>

CLIMATE CHANGE IS NOT A MUNICIPAL MANDATE

BREACH OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNANCE

Some ~300 mayors and councillors, who claim to represent half the population of Canada, spontaneously issued a demand letter to the federal government for a number of exotic climate initiatives, without any prior consultation with their electorate.

You had one job....



Pothole in Montreal. Image licensed from Adobe Stock.

This activity, and the sending of these demands to the federal government² is in breach of published mandates for city mayors and the Alberta Municipal Governance Act, which has **no provision** for “climate change action,” as well as not aligning with the priorities of Canadian municipal citizens and taxpayers.

For the past several years, the main priorities of citizens, nationally³ or municipally,⁴ or as parliamentary priorities,⁵ have been housing affordability, cost of living, jobs, abatement of crime/poverty/homelessness,

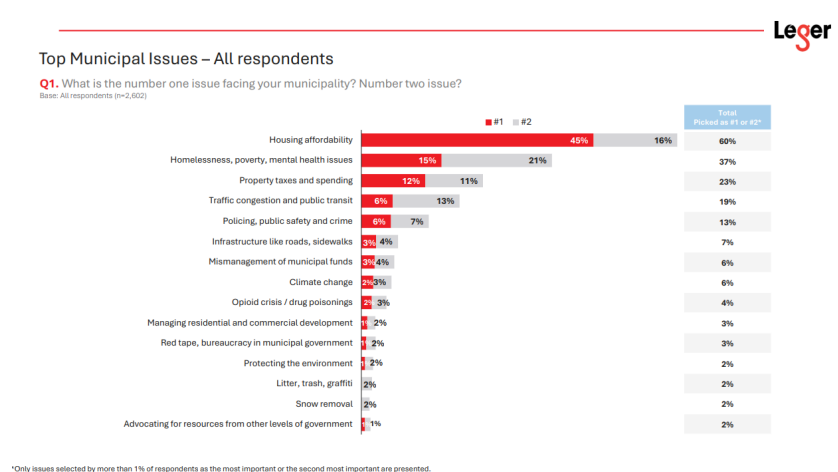
² Joint Statement by mayors, councillors and local elected leaders across Canada at the June 4 *Elbows up for Climate* Summit https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QM_C2WopHm-48xYtZteMDQMTifrLtk0ZQdwvpZCR5o/edit?tab=t.0

³ https://leger360.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Leger_-_Municipal-Issues_V2.pdf

⁴ <https://abacusdata.ca/abacus-data-poll-edmonton-voters-focused-on-stability-and-affordability-as-mayoral-race-heats-up/>

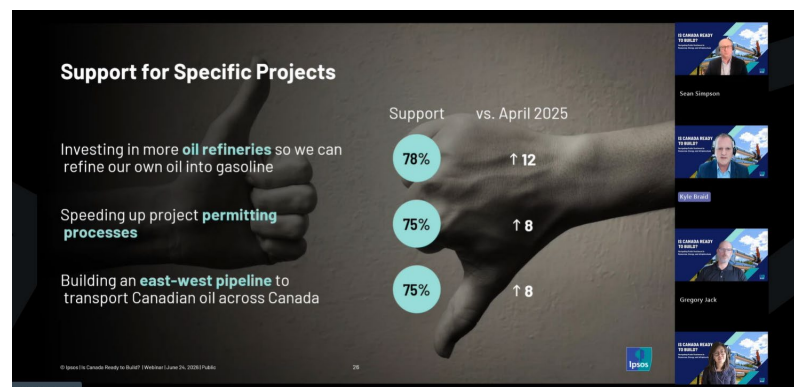
⁵ <https://nanos.co/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/2025-2961-CTV-Dec-Populated-Report-House-of-Commons-priorities.pdf>

economic development/trade. Climate change (or environment) did not feature as a top priority on any of these lists.



https://leger360.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Leger_-Municipal-Issues_V2.pdf

Indeed, a recent set of IPSOS polls shows that Canadians are exhausted from living through the “Endurance Economy”⁶ and are ready to build big projects.⁷ Most people understand the national economic benefits of exporting Canadian resources to the world to **earn back revenues from a world suffering a huge energy deficit**, especially in light of the conflicts in Iran and Ukraine.



⁶ In what Ipsos describes as the Endurance Economy, customers are making decisions under sustained constraint. Price is a big factor—and the Forces of Customer Experience (CX) become a heightened filter. Risk tolerance is lower. Expectations of brands are more pragmatic. ...Customers are asking:

- Is this affordable?
- Is this predictable?
- Will this work the way I expect it to?

Only after those questions are resolved do other experience elements begin to come into play. <https://www.ipsos.com/en-ca/customer-experience-endurance-economy> [City residents are customers of civic services; 2 million people visit food banks every month, unemployment is up as is homelessness. Climate change is not foremost in people’s minds.]

⁷ <https://www.ipsos.com/en-ca/webinar-canada-ready-build-navigating-public-sentiment>

By contrast, all of the projects advocated for by the “Elbows Up” mayors⁸ will **consume trillions in tax dollars** and not bring additional revenues to Canada, where our burgeoning debt is in danger of collapsing our economy.⁹

BETRAYAL OF ELECTORATE

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Voters, especially in Edmonton, have been betrayed, as have major industries by the claim of “Elbows Up” mayors that:

“We are asking the federal government to stand with us: to reject fossil fuel projects that divide us, and get to work on practical and popular projects that won’t burn down our country – but build us up, Canada Strong.”

Thousands of people work in oil, gas, and transportation/distribution in the Edmonton region, which is the “Gateway to the North” – a claim to fame made possible only with fossil fuels.

EXTORTIONARY DEMANDS

Further, the “Elbows Up” mayors are demanding a ‘windfall’ tax on oil and gas companies, which are only benefitting due to geopolitical situations beyond their control. Most of these corporations suffered tremendously under the unchecked ENGO activism of the “Tar Sands Campaign” against Alberta’s resource industry. Canadian petroleum companies also suffered from 2015 to 2020 due to the global OPEC-driven price crash in late 2014 and the lack of pipeline which cause Canadian oil price discounts of US\$50/bbl. Producers suffered negative rates of returns and wrote down tens of billions in asset values. Those companies did not get a government funded relief then; why should they be extorted now, simply because “Elbows Up” mayors have grandiose ideas, but no way to finance them?

⁸ Hereinafter the collection of mayors and councillors and former councillors will be referred to as “Elbows Up” mayors

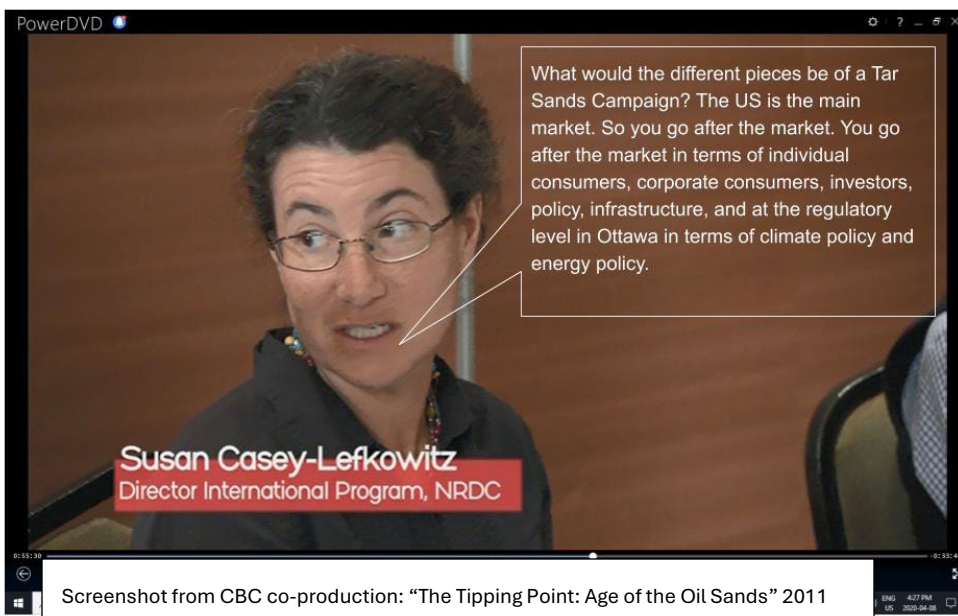
⁹ <https://www.pbo-dpb.ca/en/publications/RP-2627-002-S--economic-fiscal-outlook-june-2026--perspectives-economiques-financieres-juin-2026>



Natural Resources Defence Council ([NRDC](#)) is an American ENGO. Susan Casey-Lefkowitz has held the Canadian Tar Sands Campaign desk for 20 years.

According to Google AI, “The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) is one of the most well-funded environmental nonprofits in the United States, operating with an annual budget exceeding \$150 million and net assets of roughly \$462 million. [1, 2]”

This is foreign interference.



It is not fossil fuels that have divided Canadians, but rather the ~30 year, multi-billion dollar, foreign-funded/strategized “Tar Sands Campaign”^{10 11 12}— the actors of which still have tremendous sway in Ottawa policy-making.¹³ None of the projects promoted by the “Elbows Up” mayors could be said to be

¹⁰ <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/3176fd2d-670b-4c4a-b8a7-07383ae43743/resource/dd08f41e-ad5e-4b0d-b45d-8ad8a1b63957/download/energy-report-public-inquiry-anti-alberta-energy-campaigns-sched-a-rbf-doc.pdf>

¹¹ <https://friendsofscience.org/assets/documents/Fear&Loathing.pdf>

¹² <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2021/07/28/can-you-believe-it-protest-vs-green-trade-war-debunking-engos-tar-sands-climate-catastrophe/>

¹³ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2019/05/07/environmental-charities-a-compilation-of-reports-on-their-finances-power-and-implications-for-canada/>

‘popular or practical’ as a quick overview cost-benefit analysis above shows; likewise, **none of the mayors and councillors were elected on this platform!**



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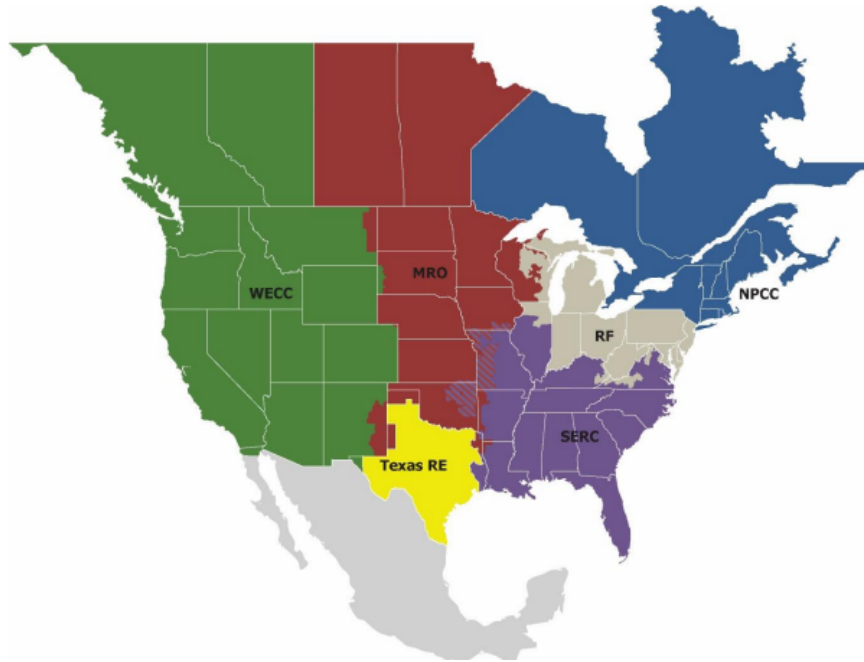
From CBC co-production "The Tipping Point: Age of the Oil Sands" (2011)

CLIMATE AND ENERGY MIS/DISINFORMATION FROM MAYORS

NORTH-SOUTH VS EAST-WEST POWER GRID – AN ISSUE OF ECONOMICS

Canada has always had a North-South trade relationship with the US for many reasons, mostly economic. With respect to the electrical power grid, the "Elbows Up" mayors are advocating for an east-west 'clean' electricity power grid. Presently the power grids in Canada and the US are part of a continent-wide set of regional arrangements for the sharing of power to ensure reliability for 400 million citizens. The color-coded north-south arrangements are largely due to economics and geography.

The North American BPS is made up of six Regional Entities as shown on the map and in the corresponding table below. The multicolored area denotes overlap as some load-serving entities participate in one Regional Entity while associated Transmission Owners/Operators participate in another.



https://www.nerc.com/globalassets/programs/rapa/pa/nerc_sor_2025_overview.pdf

WHAT WOULD AN EAST-WEST POWER GRID ENTAIL?

A preliminary cost-benefit analysis by Kent Zehr, P. Eng., has shown that even a ‘short’ east-west power grid from Ontario (nuclear baseload) to Alberta (presumably for wind assets) would be extraordinarily difficult to accomplish. Rights-of-way for transmission lines would have to be established, crossing some 50 First Nations. Under the best of negotiated conditions, this can take a decade. The terrain is very difficult. Ultimately it would be very expensive, and there is **no tax base to support a national power grid from Ontario to Alberta**, unlike the existing north-south connectors.¹⁴

Excerpt from his 2020 paper:

D. Power Pricing Consumer power prices in Ontario [1], the likely source of the 1,000 MW transmitted on the concept line, appears to average about \$100/MW based on IESO reports, with a heavy reliance on nuclear power in Ontario and on hydro power in Quebec for support. Thus, the estimate of an input power price of \$100/MW. **This of course leads to an imported power price, fully loaded, of \$170/MW when delivered into Alberta. Unfortunately, the Albertan consumers are used to an average price, based on AESO [2] reports, of only \$30/MW. Asking them to pay an almost 500% premium over that to justify constructing and connecting the concept line would appear to be fraught with difficulties.**

¹⁴ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Design-Considerations-of-a-Real-World-Interprovincial-Energy-Corridor-Power-Transmission-Line.pdf>

That said, all Canadian provinces MUST **immediately** develop additional **dispatchable** power generation for the simple reason that the US is running out of capacity¹⁵ and **will** logically prioritize their own needs over those of anyone else – just as Hydro Quebec did this past winter when a massive storm hit the east and Hydro Quebec was unable to deliver any power to the much-vaunted, recently completed, New England Clean Energy Connector.¹⁶ Presently, many provinces rely on the US for power – especially British Columbia.

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This is why power grids are generally based on regional needs, with some interconnectors to provide optional dumping of excess wind/solar or necessary interties to draw in additional power when there is an unexpected critical power generation plant failure or extreme storm conditions mean that grid operators issue a call for help. (These arrangements are generally already delineated in various regional grid reliability agreements – regions agree to maintain a certain level of reserve capacity and to be on standby to help regional partners in times of grid destabilization). [Note: the foregoing is a plain language explanation; the details are more complex.]

ECONOMICS OF POWER LINES

The north-south connectors between Canadian power generation and that of American generation shows us that it is *economics* that drives reliable power generation and connections. To build an east west power grid, across vast regions of land with virtually no population is climate madness.

ANTI-AMERICAN MAYORS

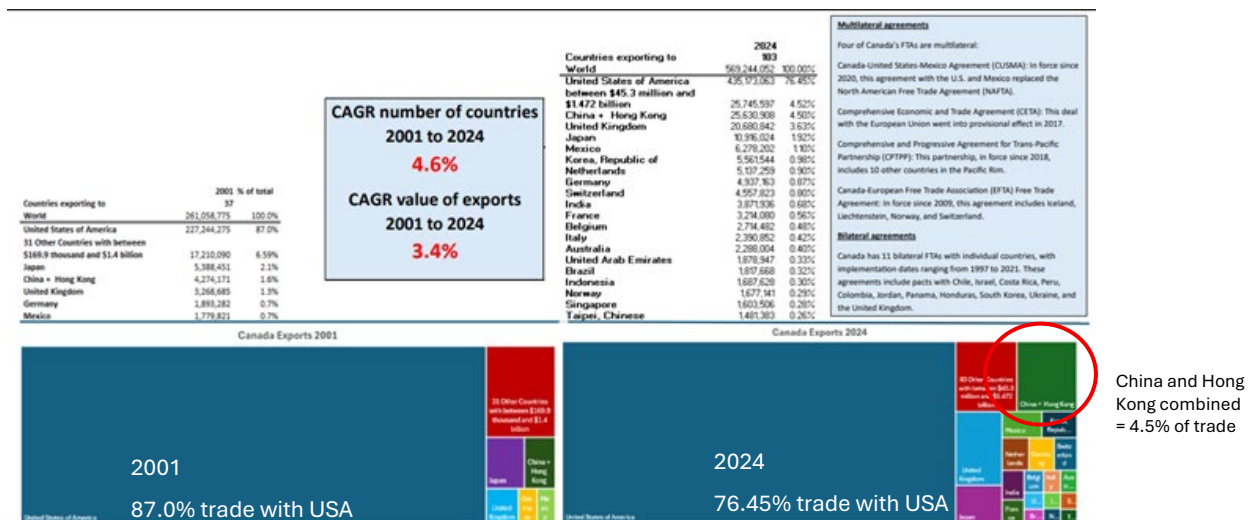
It is strange and very disturbing that the mayors and councillors of some of Canada's greatest cities, most of which rely heavily on trade and tourism with the United States of America, would choose to go with the anti-American theme of "Elbows Up" to push their climate fantasies.

Love them or hate them, the Americans are our largest trading partner. Canadians have billions of dollars invested in 'Snowbird' real estate; Americans love to come to Canada for our parks, wild game and duck/goose hunts. Many of us are married to Canucks or Yanks and our families are networked across both countries.

As are our business interests!

¹⁵ https://www.se.com/ca/en/download/document/SPD_EBK2_EN/

¹⁶ <https://www.eenews.net/articles/transmission-line-stopped-sending-hydropower-during-arctic-storm-2/>



Source: <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2025/10/17/facts-on-canadas-global-trade-an-open-letter-to-senior-deputy-governor-carolyn-rogers/>

According to the National Observer report, the “Elbows Up” mayors’ event was led by former mayors David Miller of Toronto and Valerie Plante of Montreal. Miller is the author of “*Solved: How the World’s Great Cities are Fixing the Climate Crisis*.” He is also co-chair of “Elbows Up” and chair of the C-40 Cities internal think tank. In this 2024 interview,¹⁷ Miller believes cities can ‘solve climate change’ by implementing high density living, 15-minute cities, mass transit and thus drastically reduce GHG emissions in the city.

But research shows that mass transit rail lines have huge embodied emissions:¹⁸

Even if a new rail line could save energy or reduce greenhouse gases compared with buses or autos, the energy costs and CO₂ emissions from constructing rail lines are huge and may never be recovered by the savings. Rail transit requires significant amounts of steel and concrete, for example, the production of both of which is energy intensive and emits large volumes of CO₂.

The environmental impact statement for Portland’s North Interstate light rail estimated that the line would save about 23 billion BTUs per year, but that construction would cost 3.9 trillion BTUs. Thus, it would take 172 years for the savings to repay the construction cost. In fact, long before 172 years, automobiles are likely to be so energy efficient that light rail will offer no savings at all.

As Robert Lyman wrote in his 2020 report “Squandered Money”,¹⁹

“Transit subsidies are the most expensive possible way to reduce emissions; the cost likely to exceed several hundred dollars per tonne, much higher than all other options available.

Spending on transit as a climate policy will not “save the planet”. Instead, it is a sad case of squandered money.

¹⁷ <https://youtu.be/5BJgeZCG70c>

¹⁸ <https://www.cato.org/sites/cato.org/files/pubs/pdf/pa-615.pdf>

¹⁹ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2020/02/03/squandered-money-funding-mass-transit-to-reduce-emissions/>

Robert Lyman prepared a trio of reports on mass transit for municipalities. In “Trends in Canadian Transit Ridership”²⁰ he reports that:

For Canada as a whole, of the 15,740,000 commuters in 2023, 83.6 % travelled by car, truck or van, 10.2% travelled by transit, and 6.1 % travelled by active transportation (mainly cycling and walking). The share using transit has actually declined from 11% in 2011 and is close to what it was in 1996. Transit ridership is much lower in smaller cities and in rural areas than in the larger cities.

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In Lyman’s report, “Bottomless Pit: Public Transit in Canada”,²¹ he writes:

The Library of Parliament has published a key background [paper](#) that summarizes the federal government’s role in infrastructure funding, including transit capital funding, since 2005. Since 2016, the transfer of revenues from gas taxes plus other subsidies to transit have exceeded \$4 billion per year, and under the new Canada Public Transit Fund that total will increase to over \$5 billion per year.

There has been no public accounting to indicate how much of the budgeted funds have actually been spent and no publicly-available audit or performance assessment to determine to what extent these various expenditures have actually achieved their objectives. In short, the Canadian public is left guessing about what has been spent and what has been achieved.

Even less information is available to the public concerning the capital expenditures by provincial governments on public transit.

The increased role that the federal government is playing in the funding of the capital requirements of urban transit has opened the door to ever-more-intrusive imposition of federal government policy and regulatory requirements that may be far removed from the interests and values of the communities receiving the funds.

Environmental lobbyists are already seeking ever more federal funding for transit accompanied by ever more mandatory requirements for changes in Canadians’ energy use and choices of how to live.

In Lyman’s 2024 report “Money for Nothing”,²² he writes:

Completely eliminating the use of passenger cars and light trucks, even if possible, would move Canada just over a quarter of the way to the Canadian government’s goal of reducing emissions by at least 40 per cent by 2030. It should by now be clear that vast spending on transit can at most play only a very small role in getting to “Net Zero” by 2050. The spending certainly will have no measurable effect on global emissions, temperature or weather.

²⁰ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2024/09/16/trends-in-canadian-transit-ridership/>

²¹ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2024/09/15/bottomless-money-pit-public-transit-in-canada/>

²² <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2024/09/18/money-for-nothing-the-minimal-climate-benefits-of-transit-spending/>

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) **does not directly receive mass transit capital grants**. Instead, the Government of Canada provides FCM with grants and endowments to manage and administer transit-oriented programs for municipalities. Primary programs administered by FCM that support mass and public transit initiatives include:  Natural Resources Canada +3

- **Green Municipal Fund (GMF):** Originally endowed by Environment Canada and Natural Resources Canada, and continually supported with federal grants (including a historic \$1.65+ billion capitalization and an additional \$530 million for climate adaptation). The GMF offers grants, loans, and other financial tools to help local governments and transit agencies test or implement sustainable, low-emission public transit and fleet electrification solutions.  Canada.ca +5
- **Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program (MCIP):** Funded by the Government of Canada, this initiative provides grants, training, and resources to help Canadian municipalities encourage transit usage and better prepare for the realities of climate change.  Green Municipal Fund +1
- **Municipal Asset Management Program (MAMP):** Supported by federal transfer payments, this program provides grants and training to help municipalities strengthen and plan their infrastructure investment decisions, including public transit assets.  Federation of Canadian Municipalities +4

For direct capital mass transit projects (such as new light rail, subway lines, or major municipal bus purchases), the federal government provides funds to cities directly and through provincial agreements. These funds are distributed via programs like the [Canada Public Transit Fund](#) (which provides approximately \$25 billion over 10 years), the [Rural Transit Solutions Fund](#), and the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.  Federation of Canadian Municipalities +3

UNDUE INFLUENCE FROM UNACCOUNTABLE ENGOS

Canada is already committed to spending some \$476 billion on climate initiatives (2020-2030), the possible reduction in warming by 2100 to be achieved would be 0.007 degrees Celsius (seven thousandths of a degree). A series of reports by retired energy economist, Robert Lyman, puts these costs in perspective.

Public policy on climate has strayed far from reality, reason and accountability.

In “[What are Climate Policies Costing Canada?](#)” Lyman notes that a global survey published in Nature in February 2024 found that people would be willing to spend 1% of their income on climate initiatives. Canadians are already spending more than that.

According to Statistics Canada, the median Canadian Income in 2022 was \$43,000. So, 1% of that income for climate change would be \$430.

Lyman used a list of Canada’s climate initiatives put together by Navius Research and found the figures add up to a grand total of expenditures made and planned of \$172.8 billion by the federal government alone.

However, he writes, “The total federal and provincial expenditures on climate measures over the period 2020 to 2030 as listed by the Carbon Policy Tracker are \$476 billion or \$11,900 per resident of Canada. This equates to roughly \$28,000 per household (i.e. an average of \$2,800 per household per year). This is just what has been announced to date; there remain five more fiscal years before 2030 during which governments may add more initiatives.”

A second report “[Turning Taxpayers into Risk Takers](#)” discusses the federal government’s efforts to enshrine in legislation a program of Contracts for Difference (CfDs). This is a program where, if there is a fall in market price for a new “clean” energy market, taxpayers make up the difference. Thus, CfD’s provide market certainty to investors. But they pick the pocket of taxpayers to do so!

Lyman writes, “To date, the federal government has announced only one CfD. On December 20, 2023, Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland announced that the [Canada Growth Fund](#) had concluded an agreement with Calgary’s Entropy Inc. Freeland proclaimed this could reduce emissions by up to 9 million tonnes over 15 years.”

In the referenced article above the CO2 emissions abatement is 185,000 tonnes (instead of the projected 9 million tonnes). As such the math is: (185,000 tonnes x \$86.5 per Tonne + \$200 million) / 185,000 tonnes = **\$1,167.58 / tonne**. That’s quite the carbon tax, eh?

You’d never know about it if no one did this math for you.

Lyman is outraged, writing, “How can this be considered as justified?... if the general public is to take on the economic risks, what benefits are there to compensate for this?”

A third report discusses the “[Burdensome Ideology](#)” of climate initiatives which many taxpayers are unaware of. Likewise, the huge sums involved are generally beyond the imaginations of regular people who are busy with their children, jobs and mortgages; many people are pleased that some

²³ <https://www.westernstandard.news/opinion/stirling-more-than-axe-the-tax-nix-net-zero-these-reports-say-why/54951>

kind of "climate action" is being taken to mollify the Greta Thunbergs of the world and save the planet for our children.

What Robert Lyman does is show you that Greta and friends will all be in the poor-house if this nonsense continues.

In 2022, the Royal Bank Of Canada published a study entitled The [\\$2 Trillion Transition](#) on the “costs of decarbonization”. Friends of Science Society’s [reanalysis](#) by its team of Professional Engineers found that RBC had wildly underestimated the costs.

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In its March 2022 Budget, the federal government upped the ante for reaching Net Zero to somewhere between \$3.4 trillion and \$5.2 trillion.

So, the Net Zero challenge ranges between \$2 trillion and \$5.2 trillion. That is an almost unimaginable amount of money. \$2 trillion is \$50,000 for every one of Canada’s 40 million residents now, or \$118,000 for every household. \$5.2 trillion is \$130,000 for every resident, or \$306,000 for every household. Averaged over 27 years, \$2 trillion would cost every one of today’s residents about \$1,850 per year; averaged over 27 years, \$5.2 trillion would cost every one of today’s residents \$4,815 per year.

So, you’ll own nothing.

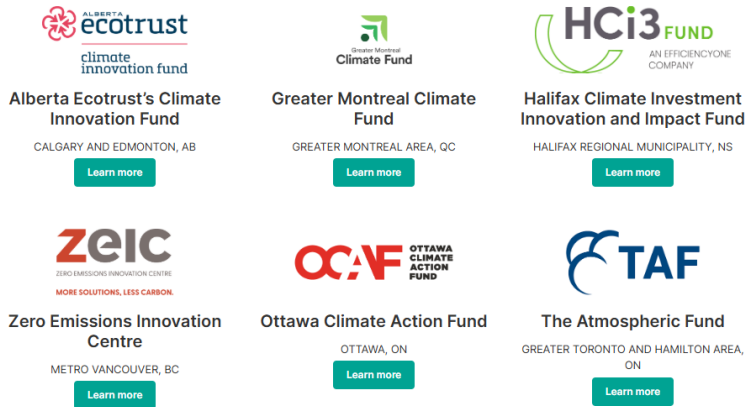
TAXPAYERS UNWITTINGLY FORCED TO FUND CLIMATE INITIATIVES THEY DID NOT VOTE FOR

Taxpayers are being forced to fund these climate initiatives that they did not vote for, in at least two ways. One is through various funds from government, such as this grant of \$530,000,000 from Environment and Climate Change Canada for the Low Carbon Cities Canada (L3C) program:

The screenshot shows the Government of Canada's website with the "Grants and Contributions Dataset" search results. The search term "Federation of Canadian Municipalities" has been entered, and the results show 20 records. The top record is highlighted, showing a grant of \$530,000,000.00 to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, dated Mar 25, 2024. The description of the grant is "To support LC3-FCM Collaboration on Community Climate Action Projects". The organization is "Environment and Climate Change Canada" and the location is "Ottawa, Ontario, CA".

Record Format	Organization	Calendar Year	Agreement Type	Agreement Value	Amendments
	Federation of Canadian Municipalities			\$530,000,000.00	

This is just one example of many such grants via the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (i.e. the tree planting boondoggle was coordinated via FCM) and hundreds of grants to various activist groups. This grant paid by all taxpayers, only benefits 7 cities.



LC3 Centres are locally governed and are self-financed through endowments ranging in size from \$20M to \$100M.

LC3 is a collaboration among seven local Centres in city regions that are home to 50% of Canadians, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' [Green Municipal Fund](#). It was established thanks to an endowment from the Government of Canada.

Note: Calgary and Edmonton are jointly listed under Alberta Ecotrust's Climate Innovation Fund, thus making up the seven cities.

Another is via the tax-subsidized ENGOs and Foundations, like the Trottier Family Foundation of which their former executive director, Eric St.-Pierre, is a co-founder of the LC3 initiative.²⁴ The Trottier Family Foundation reports total revenues of **\$85,562,734.00** in its 2024 filing with the CRA. In “Good COP, Bad COP”, St.-Pierre explains that the Trottier Family Foundation funded most of the Canadian ENGOs attending COP28, the climate conference in the United Arab Emirates, and that they spurred the “Cap emissions” ballcap campaign to support the federal government’s cap on oil and gas emissions. He also writes that, “we collaborated with other funders and networks like Bloomberg, the Open Society Foundation, C40 Cities, ClimateWorks, WINGS and the Canadian Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change.”²⁵ St.-Pierre is now a Liberal member of parliament for Honoré-Mercier, Quebec.²⁶

The “Elbows Up for Climate” is a project of the Climate Caucus.



²⁴ <https://www.concordia.ca/cuevents/offices/advancement/2022/04/21/time-for-action-how-can-cities-lead-the-fight-against-climate-change.html>

²⁵ <https://pfc.ca/blog/good-cop-bad-cop-the-role-of-philanthropy-at-cop28/>

²⁶ <https://www.ourcommons.ca/members/en/122589>

The Climate Caucus in turn is funded by and partnered with these organizations:

Funding Partners



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Partner Organisations



https://climatecaucus.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/CC_AnnualReport_2025.pdf

While these climate activist organizations advocate for spending tax dollars on green crony projects, where is the taxpayer's and voter's voice??

Of the 288 signatories, 33 are former councillors and mayors. The provincial breakdown of signatories is:

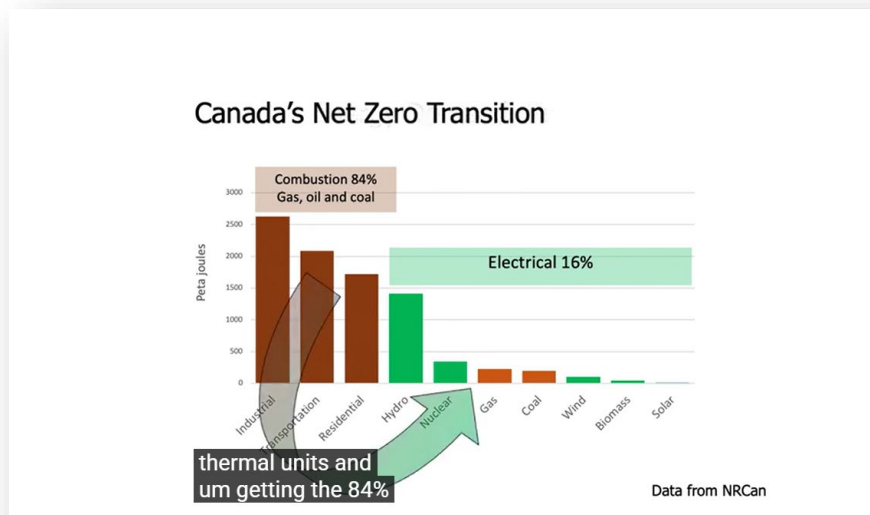
Prov	Total
AB	20
BC	102
MB	5
NB	7
NL	3
NS	14
NWT	3
ON	74
QC	52
SK	7
YT	1
(blank)	
Grand Total	288

Although there are 288 signatories, they represent 176 municipalities

A NATIONAL CLEAN ENERGY GRID IN EVERY DIRECTION

While Canada's electricity grid is low-emissions to begin with, due to the massive hydro resources we have, people must remember that electricity makes up only about 18% of the energy delivery in Canada – the ~80% balance is from oil, natural gas, and coal.²⁷

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https://youtu.be/_N_0kM1DFHs?list=PLZcRTdbkGEnGZmLsQ3o5Dk7UTmcp3H5gy&t=1818

Canada's total energy supply by source vs Canada's electricity supply by source from the [IEA](#).

Energy mix

Total energy supply, Canada, 2024

Total energy supply Production Electricity Consumption



Emissions

Energy-related CO₂ emissions, Canada, 2023

523 Mt CO₂

1.51%
of global emissions

↑4%
change since 2000

Energy mix

Electricity generation mix, Canada, 2024

Total energy supply Production Electricity Consumption



Emissions

Energy-related CO₂ emissions, Canada, 2023

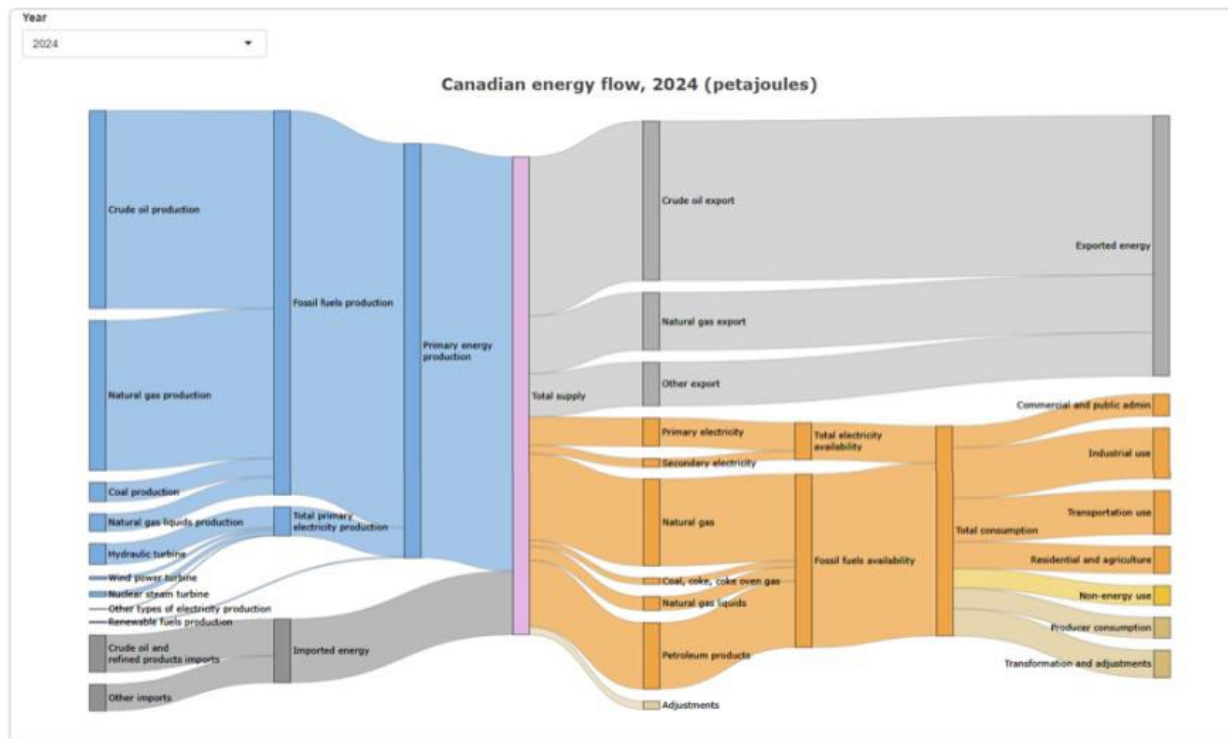
523 Mt CO₂

1.51%
of global emissions

↑4%
change since 2000

²⁷ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2025/09/25/insights-from-a-sankey-diagram/>

The following Canadian government Sankey diagram shows the flows (read left to right) of energy production and consumption. It also shows that the “Elbows Up” mayors are misleading the electorate on energy issues.



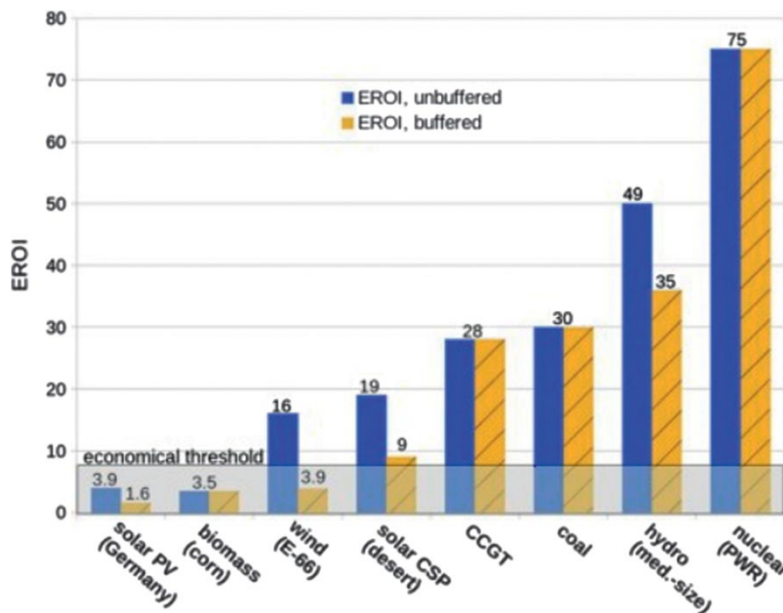
Interactive version: <https://energy-information.canada.ca/en/resources/canadian-energy-flow-sankey-diagram>

Robert Lyman is a retired energy economist, who was a federal public servant of 27 years and 10 years a diplomat. Robert Lyman’s comments on the 2023 Sankey diagram:²⁸

Fossil fuels constitute 93 per cent of domestic energy supply.
 For all the publicity given to the alleged electrification of Canada, domestic electricity and renewables production provides only seven per cent of our energy production.
 Fossil fuels also meet by far most of Canada’s energy consumption needs.
 Electricity meets only 18 per cent of Canada’s energy demand, slightly below the average in most other OECD countries.
 Coal production remains important.
 In energy terms, coal production is roughly equal to hydro-electricity, which gets far more attention and government endorsement. Coal produces almost nine times as much energy as Canadian wind turbines.

Clearly a ‘clean energy’ grid in all directions is not a reasonable demand, not to mention ‘clean energy’ is not clean, nor can it provide sufficient power for a hi-tech, high-culture society in terms of Energy Return on Energy Invested.

²⁸ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2025/09/25/insights-from-a-sankey-diagram/>



Energy return on investment (EROI)

“In human terms, with an EROI of 1, we can mine fuel and look at it—we have no energy left over. To get a society that can feed itself and provide a basic educational system we need an EROI of our base-load fuel to be in excess of 5, and for a society with international travel and high culture we need EROI greater than 10. The new renewable energies do not reach this last level when the extra energy costs of overcoming intermittency are added in. In energy terms the current generation of renewable energy technologies alone will not enable a civilized modern society to continue!”

Source: <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/mrs-energy-and-sustainability/article/lessons-from-technology-development-for-energy-and-sustainability/2D40F35844FEFEC37FDC62499DDBD4DC>

THE BUILDING OF AT LEAST 2 MILLION NET-ZERO BELOW-MARKET HOMES

As per Robert Lyman’s report “Forget the Dream House”, “Using the low end of the estimated additional cost of a net-zero house of \$100,000 per unit and the estimate of 200,000 average new home sales per year, moving to mandate the use of net-zero homes in Canada by 2030 would impose an additional \$20 billion per year cost on the Canadian economy.”²⁹ Who will pick up the tab?

MASS RETROFITS

Robert Lyman did a comparative review of similar retrofit proposals in the UK, which no private investor would touch, and concluded “**If the cost of major housing retrofit here were the same as in the U.K., the cost to halve GHG emissions [in Canada] would be \$3.6 trillion.**”³⁰

²⁹ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Forget-the-Dream-House-FINAL.pdf>

³⁰ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2019/05/13/look-before-you-leap-housing-retrofits/>

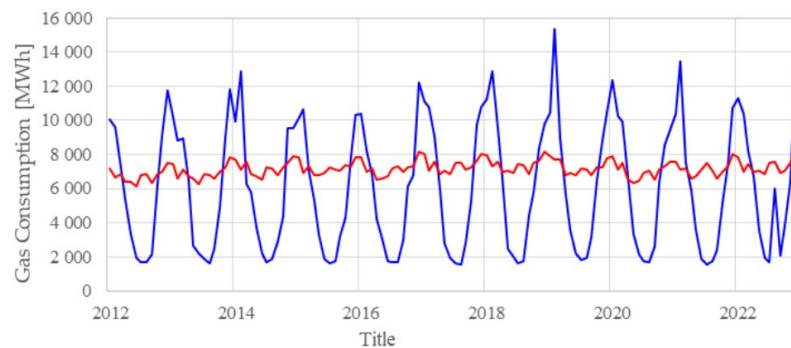
HEAT PUMPS AND SOLAR INSTALLATIONS

Heat pumps have their place in temperate climates like Los Angeles, but across Canada, heat pumps cannot provide dispatchable **heat** when necessary in the coldest days of winter. Some fail completely at very cold temperatures. But most important, an enormous build out of electrical capacity would be required in most provinces and territories, just to power heat pumps, **which could not reasonably occur in less than several decades, and would cost hundreds of billions of dollars.**

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As illustrated below, for Alberta, the entire power grid would have to be doubled in **dispatchable** generation capacity for the implementation of heat pumps to the residential sector alone.³¹ Dispatchable generation comes from natural gas, hydro, and to a certain extent, nuclear power plants, **where the rate of generation can be controlled and ramped up or down rapidly as the electrical system needs.** Demand and supply on the power grid must be evenly matched, almost to the second, or blackouts may occur with devastating consequences for the public, industry, and economic vitality. This is why weather-dependent, non-dispatchable wind, solar and storage are **not** a 'clean power grid' solution. No matter what the "Elbows Up" mayors demand. Note: Wind, solar and storage can complement power generation, but cannot provide consistent power necessary for a hi-tech, complex society. When it comes to wind and solar, **half a truth is a whole lie.**³²

Heat Pumps



The blue line shows, for each month from 2012 to 2022, the average per-hour energy delivery to **residential customers** in the form of natural gas. The red line shows the average monthly electricity demand for the entire province, excluding industrial load that is served by on-site generation.

Example: Report ST3 from the Alberta Energy Regulator ER gives January 2024 residential consumption as 822 143 thousand cubic metres. The average energy content of Alberta natural gas is about 40.5 GJ, or 11.25 MWh, per thousand cubic metres. So, January residential consumption is $822\,143 \times 11.25 = 9.25$ million MWh, or 12 400 MWh per hour.

A NATIONAL HIGH-SPEED RAIL SYSTEM CONNECTED TO LOCAL ELECTRIC BUSES

As of this writing on June 27, 2026, Canada's national debt stands at \$1.4+ trillion:

³¹ <https://friendsofscience.org/assets/files/net-zero-and-albertas-future-power-grid.pdf>

³² <https://docs.wind-watch.org/halkema-windenergyfactfiction.pdf>



<https://www.iedm.org/canadian-debt-clock/>

The cost of the proposed Alto high-speed Rail line between Toronto and Quebec City is: “Right now, ...is estimated to cost between \$60 and \$90 billion. Our current estimate is based on the scale of the project and available research¹, not on final designs or construction contracts.”³³

Alto will cover a distance of ~1,000 kilometers from Toronto to Quebec City, where there is also existing road and rail services to facilitate delivery of materials. This would not be the case for the routes for the “Elbows Up” mayors’ demand for a national high-speed rail, connected to fleets of EV buses. There is insufficient power generation to support such a plan, except perhaps in Ontario.

Canada’s existing power grid is insufficient to support the present EV policies.³⁴

CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICIES SUITED TO ONE REGION MAY NOT BE RIGHT FOR CANADA

In 2020, Friends of Science Society issued a two-part report titled, “Penury vs Prosperity: What is Canada’s Future?”³⁵ In the report we reiterated that climate and energy policies must not simply be ‘copied’ from other regions of the world because so many conditions are completely different. The fact that France has high-speed rail systems is due to an installed high voltage network, massive nuclear power plant resources, and a population of 69 million people in an area that is much smaller than Canada and which features a much more temperate climate, more conducive to construction and reliable operation. Likewise, China’s high-speed rail System is very large and impressive. Considering their population of 1.4 billion people and the fact that they must import most of their oil and natural gas for industrial/manufacturing use, it makes perfect sense to have electrified high-speed rail to transport masses of people; or to have electric vehicle fleets which can be charged on their coal-fired power grid. Despite being the third largest country globally, only about 20% of China is habitable due to difficult terrain and extreme weather conditions.

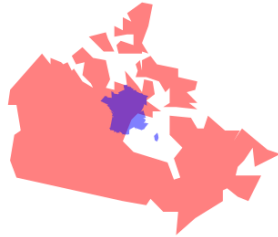
³³ <https://www.altotrain.ca/en/faq/how-much-will-altos-high-speed-rail-cost-canadians-and-how-it-funded>

³⁴ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2019/05/13/electric-vehicle-considerations-for-canada/>

³⁵ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2020/10/11/penury-or-prosperity-a-critical-review-of-bridge-to-the-future/>

MapFight

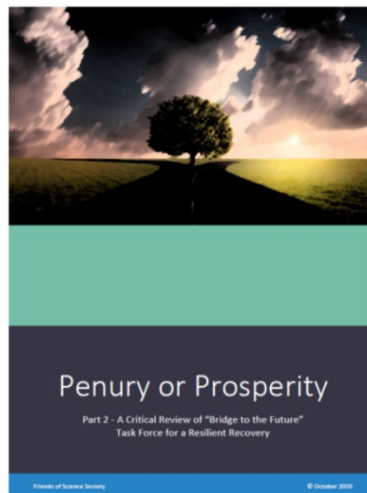
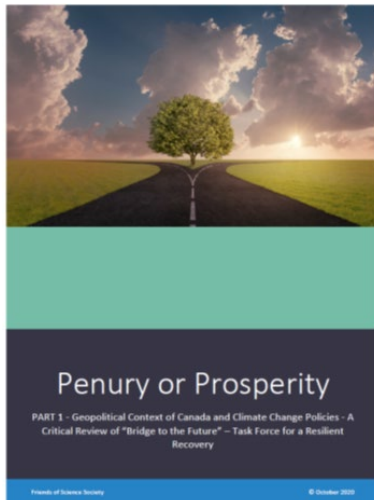
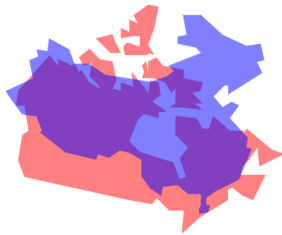
Canada France 0 %
Canada (9,984,670 km²) is **18** times as big as
France (551,695 km²).



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MapFight

Canada China 0 %
Canada (9,984,670 km²) is **1.04** times as big as
China (9,596,961 km²).



Reports: <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2020/10/11/penury-or-prosperity-a-critical-review-of-bridge-to-the-future/>

Video overview:

https://youtu.be/yKDF5vz_5p4

NATIONAL RESILIENCE, RESPONSE AND RECOVERY STRATEGY

The manifesto sent to the federal government does not delineate what this ‘national resilience, response and recovery strategy’ would entail or what issues it might address. Consider that national policies of late have not been founded on reason – an example being that after the Kelowna wildfire

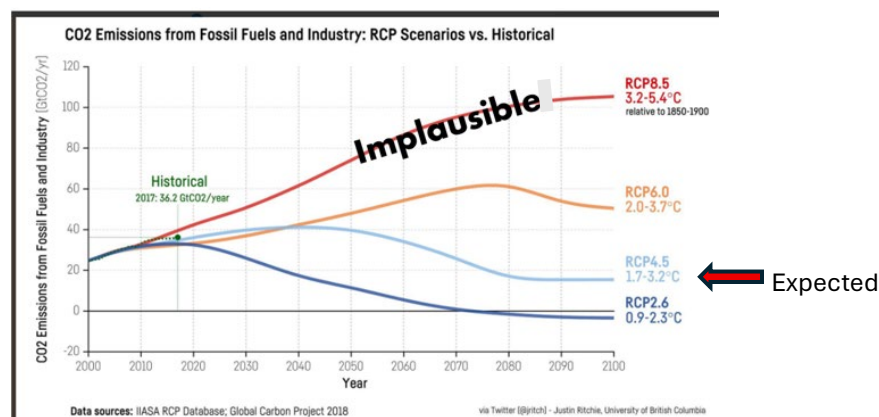
of Aug. 2023,³⁶ the federal government granted British Columbia some \$43 million for wildfire support. At the same time, they pumped \$43 BILLION into EV battery manufacturers; most of those companies have gone bankrupt, moved to the US, or withdrawn/put on hold their production plans.

NO COST BENEFIT OR FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS

The emotional letter sent to the federal government by the “Elbows Up for Climate” mayors has no cost-benefit or feasibility analysis of any kind whatsoever. The electorate were not consulted. The letter claims that the federal government has backed down on climate goals, a perspective that is not founded on the evidence.³⁷

CLIMATE CATASTROPHE/EMERGENCY SCENARIO OFFICIALLY SIDELINED AS “IMPLAUSIBLE”

The fear of a climate catastrophe stemmed from the misuse of a climate scenario known as RCP 8.5 – Representative Concentration Pathway 8.5 (a more recent version known as SSP5-8.5) as if the ‘business-as-usual’ (BAU) case. The official climate modelling organization of the IPCC has sidelined RCP 8.5.³⁸ For over a decade, climate researchers have known that RCP 8.5 was implausible, and therefore not ‘BAU’ but the climate activist community and many government agencies have weaponised its use.



Environment and Climate Change Canada and the University of Winnipeg’s Prairie Climate Centre/Climate Atlas have continued to use RCP 8.5 as the BAU, skewing public policy across Canada. Infrastructure Canada also uses RCP 8.5 in its mandated “Climate Lens”³⁹ for municipal applications for infrastructure funding.

This means that project costs are significantly higher than they need be as assessments were planning for extraordinary impacts of climate change.

³⁶ <https://youtu.be/SObeh-aiRYc>

³⁷ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2026/06/02/has-mark-carney-abandoned-his-climate-goals-the-facts/>

³⁸ https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/climate-emergency-scenario-officially-sidelined-says-friends-of-science-in-open-letter-to-canadas-banking-superintendent-302765859.html?tc=eML_cleartime

³⁹ https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2024/infoc/T94-51-2023-eng.pdf

ACTION ITEM: The Province of Alberta and the “Elbows Up” mayors should be demanding that RCP 8.5/SSP5-8.5 be removed from all government policies and funding mandates, at all levels of government, immediately.

WILDFIRES ARE NOT DRIVEN BY CARBON DIOXIDE OR HUMAN-INDUCED CLIMATE CHANGE

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The headline theme of the “Elbows Up” group is that building pipelines is not in the national interest, claiming that such infrastructure drives wildfires and other extreme weather events. This is misinformation. This excerpt from the “Elbows Up for Climate” web-site falsely accuses the use of fossil fuels as the reason for wildfire and extreme weather events.

We need nation-building, not ~~nation-burning~~ policies.

Ahead of another summer of potential wildfires, floods, evacuations and storms, mayors and councillors across Canada gathered urgently to call for achievable, job-creating federal climate action.

Close to 300 mayors, councillors and local elected leaders are underscoring the need for federal investments in projects that cut pollution while protecting communities and strengthening the Canadian economy.

The “Elbows Up for Climate” event featured guest speaker John Vaillant, author of “Fire Weather: The Making of a Beast”, a book about the 2016 Fort MacMurray wildfire. The premise of Vaillant’s book is that the use of fossil fuels is driving catastrophic climate change and “beast-like” wildfires, such as that of Fort MacMurray. According to the book jacket, it is *“a shocking preview of what we must prepare for in a hotter, more flammable world, as fire’s destructive power is unleashed in previously unimaginable ways.”*

In attendance at the “Elbows Up” event was Mayor Richard Ireland of Jasper Townsite. According to the National Observer report, Mayor Ireland, whose home was burnt down in the 2024 Jasper wildfire, “prior to Vaillant’s keynote, Ireland shared two items that were recovered from the “ash and debris” that used to be his home before the 2024 Jasper wildfire: his son’s Governor General’s Award and a belt buckle gifted to Ireland by the superintendent of Jasper National Park for its 100th anniversary.”

“Before this experience, I might have remained silent, as so many do, about the difficult issues we struggle to balance in Canada — climate action in particular, and the production of more fossil fuels,” said Ireland.

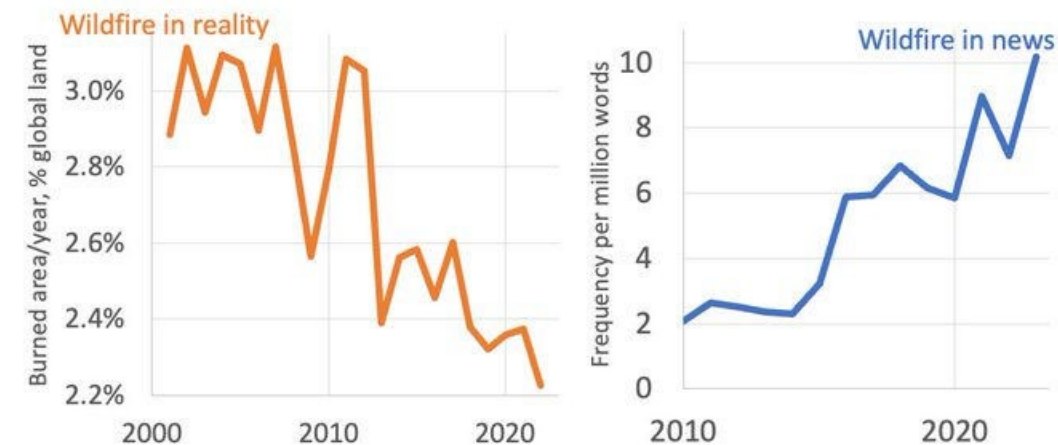
“Now I feel a duty and obligation to speak out and to do what I can to prevent the trauma of what we in Jasper went through from happening to another community anywhere in this country.”

Mayor Ireland’s personal story is tragic, but his conclusions are misguided.

Every six years, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issues detailed climate, mitigation and economic reports. These inform government policy on climate. In the latest AR6 report, the IPCC states: **The IPCC has not detected or attributed fire occurrence or area burned to human-caused climate change.**

The world is burning ever less Fire is ever more in the news

NASA satellite data shows that the world burns ever less area. But news media now writes 400% more about wildfire. Maybe that's why everyone is scared?

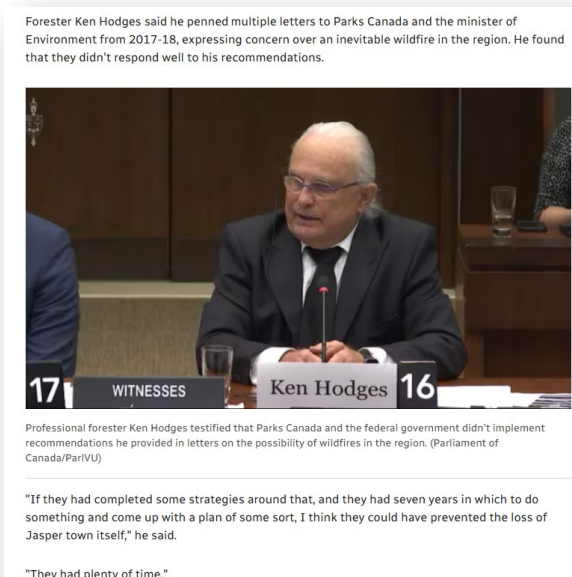


Satellite data from <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0034425718303705>, updated with data to 2022 from lead author. Global land area at 148.94 million km², news data from 17.8 billion words of news media from 2010-today, "wildfire" frequency per million words, <https://www.english-corpora.org/now/>, <https://twitter.com/bjornlomborg>

WILDFIRE IS A FUNCTION OF FUEL LOAD, OXYGEN AND SPARK – THE FIRE TRIANGLE.

Over the course of many years, numerous forestry experts advised Parks Canada and the town of Jasper that it was a matter of 'when' not 'if' a megafire would happen. From about 2017, retired BC forester Ken Hodges and colleague Emile Beguin wrote letters to Parks Canada and travelled at their own expense to advise Jasper mayor and council and Parks Canada (and other communities in forested areas) about the risk of megafires and what measures could be taken to mitigate the risk.

Much of the risk stems from the fact that Western Canada has some 18 million ha of standing deadwood from pine beetle infestation of ~2 decades ago. This fuel load/deadwood has to be mechanically cut/cleared or burned off in careful prescribed burns in all areas near municipalities and villages. It is likely that such work has been put off because tourists don't like to see clear-cut areas, burnt-out spots, or to experience forest fire smoke. The alternative to such mitigation and temporary inconvenience is another megafire.



Source: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/parliamentary-hearings-jasper-wildfires-1.7348248>

Ken Hodges testified to a Canadian Senate committee that “they had seven years in which to do something and come up with a plan of some sort, I think they could have prevented the loss of Jasper town itself...they had plenty of time.”

Mayor Ireland has been the mayor of Jasper Townsite since 2001, 25 years.

During his time, the town issued a Climate Change plan,⁴⁰ just six months prior to the disastrous wildfire. In the survey, town residents expressed a morbid fear of a megafire, but Parks Canada mollified them, claiming that Parks Canada had two fire fighting crews in the town and claimed that a lot of FireSmart wildfire mitigation work had been done around town.

It was not enough.

Our video explainer on the “Jasper Wildfire... not if, but when”⁴¹ provides insights from forestry professionals which show that climate change was unrelated to the catastrophic megafire that hit Jasper in 2024.

Likewise, **without fossil fuels**, none of the town would have survived the fire. Without CN rail and aerial wildfire fighting support, critical infrastructure (such as the nearby Trans Mountain pumping station) would have gone up in smoke, **and it is possible that 25,000 people could have died.**

Without fossil fuels, there would be no tourism industry in Jasper.⁴²

⁴⁰ <https://mccac.ca/mcap/climate-risk-assessment-report-2/>

⁴¹ <https://youtu.be/F4y026PwiEM>

⁴² <https://share.google/aimode/T0IE9b2TGFhZArmjV>

If the Jasper pump station had been shut down or failed due to the megafire, without the transport of oil via Trans Mountain to Burnaby, there would be limited gasoline or diesel for all of Vancouver and the PADD 5 region (only 10% of refined gasoline for Vancouver comes from Washington state refineries).⁴³ TMX also supplies Washington refineries.

From the Jan 2024 Jasper climate change report (which uses RCP8.5 throughout):⁴⁴

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An online community engagement survey, facilitated by the Municipality of Jasper, was used to support this project. Results showed that respondents were most concerned with wildfire out of all climate risks. However, discussions with the Municipality of Jasper and Parks Canada noted that the public may be more fearful than warranted due to strong fire management practices in place. A draft consequence score of “5” was originally proposed for this hazard, but it was reduced to a “4” after reviewing the extensive work already being done to reduce the impact of wildfire. A wildfire in the municipality could damage infrastructure, which may require significant repairs or full replacement depending on the extent of the damages. Community member homes and other private property could be impacted damaged or destroyed. Critical (water treatment, medical, etc.) and less critical buildings and facilities (library, school) are also at risk. [bold added]

Note that risk of deaths or mass deaths from a mega-wildfire that might envelope/encircle thousands of international/continental tourists and residents was not even considered. There are only three escape routes from Jasper; Hwy 16 route east into Alberta and Hwy 93 south to Banff were blocked/impered by fire and showers of firebrands during the 2024 evacuation. The only option left was the long drive west via Hwy 16/Yellowhead into British Columbia.

*We recall with sorrow and gratitude for his heroic efforts, that wildland firefighter Morgan Kitchen died while working to save Jasper.*⁴⁵

A year after the tragic wildfire, climate activists exploited the tragedy, employing false and misleading information.⁴⁶

Facts and data about wildfires matter.

⁴³ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2018/05/11/the-trans-mountain-expansion-project-and-regional-oil-markets/>

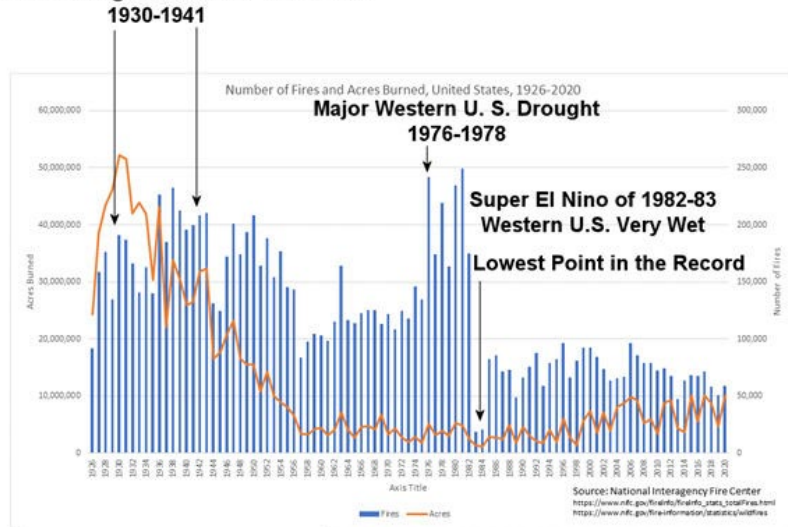
⁴⁴

[https://jasper.municipalwebsites.ca/UploadFiles/Docs/MunicipalityofJasperClimateRiskAssessmentReport21Feb24cmprss_hPU65R.p](https://jasper.municipalwebsites.ca/UploadFiles/Docs/MunicipalityofJasperClimateRiskAssessmentReport21Feb24cmprss_hPU65R.pdf)

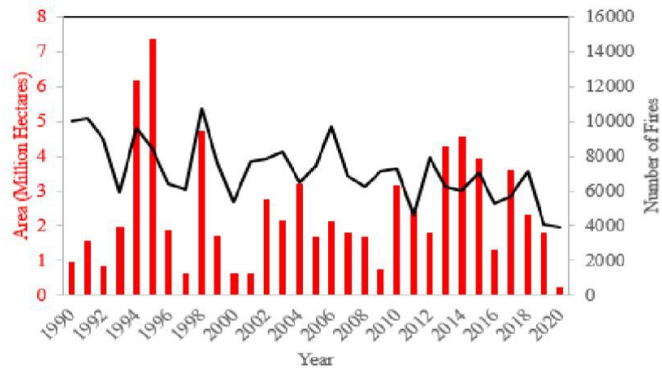
⁴⁵ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/morgan-kitchen-funeral-calgary-firefighter-jasper-1.7297672>

⁴⁶ <https://youtu.be/vvEZlaFHj0>

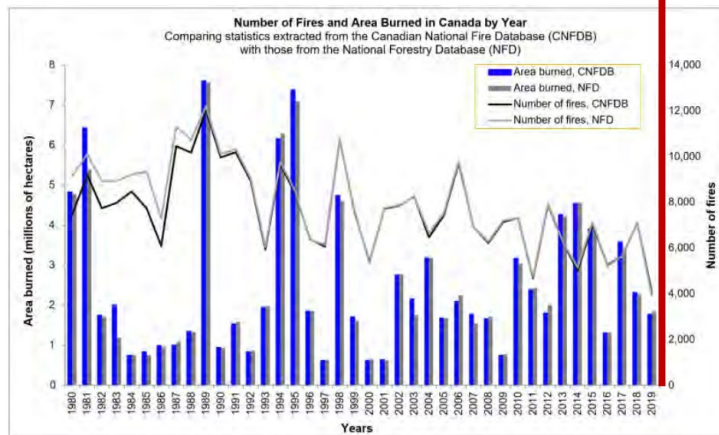
Record Heat/Drought & the U.S. "Dust Bowl"



a) Canada Forest Fires



2023



In science, the 2023 extraordinary area burned is an 'anomaly'.

The trend of the number of fires and area burned is down.

WILDLAND FIRE
STATISTICS

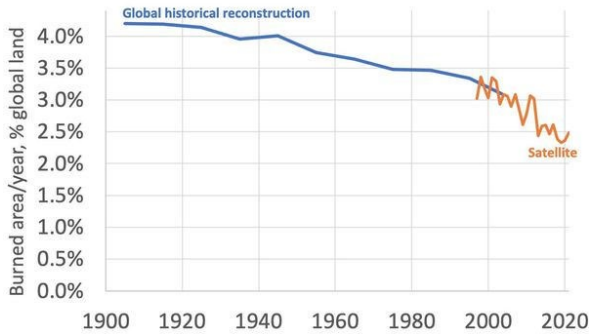
Wildland Fire Starts													
Total Numbers of Fires (Natural and Human Caused)													
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Avg.
BC	1,854	1,455	1,836	1,049	1,352	2,087	792	649	1,635	1,778	2,257	1,688	1,536
YT	177	34	184	53	115	67	117	24	112	295	214	142	128
AB	1,214	1,451	1,850	1,366	1,217	1,288	1,004	723	1,342	1,281	1,149	1,230	1,260
NT	248	385	245	189	262	59	149	71	140	262	304	172	207
SK	429	403	723	364	353	416	243	145	635	445	462	600	435
MB	494	245	454	202	545	477	254	149	460	224	300	322	344
ON	582	303	668	648	776	1,327	537	608	1,198	275	743	486	679
QC	515	292	384	602	319	593	357	707	625	449	713	518	506
NL	101	124	128	91	80	132	99	94	82	103	101	97	103
NB	356	178	222	285	245	282	182	462	180	214	202	281	257
NS	171	171	247	274	175	190	143	176	113	152	220	85	176
PE	9	4	5	7	4	10	4	15	1	2	8	9	7
PC	96	81	122	43	168	140	52	93	73	159	109	93	102
DND										87	349		218
Total	6,246	5,126	7,068	5,173	5,611	7,068	3,933	3,916	6,596	5,726	7,131	7,747	5,958

NATIONAL FIRES &
AREA BURNED

In 2024: 5,581 Fires	In 2024: 5,324,959 Hectares Burned
10 Year Average: 5,798 Fires	10 Year Average: 4,184,351 Hectares

https://ciffc.ca/download/canada-reports/?wpdmdl=1585&ind=1773515619675&refresh=9beb8de8&filename=Canada_Report_2024_EN_Version.pdf
Current wildfire data: <https://ciffc.net/situation/2026-06-30>

Global Burned Area 1901-2021



1901-2007 from <https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/2013JG002532>, 1997-2016 from <http://globalfiredata.org/analysis.html>, and 2003-21 from <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0034425718303705>, updated with data from lead author. The two satellite data series were harmonized 2003-16 (very similar). 2021 is an estimate, based on satellite data from Jan-Aug, adjusted to empirical relation between Jan-Aug and full year for 2001-20. Historical reconstruction was adjusted to last version of satellite data (GFED3), and GFED4 is now higher, so historical reconstruction adjusted upwards to still fit GFED4 2000-2007; global land area at 148.94 km², twitter.com/bjornlamborg

ACTION ITEM: The Province and the “Elbows Up” mayors, provincial and federal climate organizations must stop misallocating funds from necessary wildfire fighting budgets to “climate change” nonsense projects like tree planting or funding Net Zero electrification. **All Canadian cities, towns, and rural communities and property owners should proactively engage in “FireSmart” efforts.**⁴⁷ Urban wildfires, especially during drought conditions, or like last summer’s water main failure in Calgary, can put many properties and lives at risk. In high wind circumstances, whether in the mountains or a major city, firefighting crews are virtually powerless to stop the spread of firebrands. **To “FireSmart” every community does not have to be expensive, as there are dozens of simple measures home owners and businesses can take to mitigate wildfire risk.**⁴⁸ Some cities in high-risk forested areas, like Logan Lake, have made extensive FireSmart efforts, such as installing roof sprinklers, which did save their community.⁴⁹

YES, 1-IN-A-100 YEAR FLOODS CAN HAPPEN SEVERAL YEARS IN A ROW

In the National Observer article, Mayor Andrew Knack of Edmonton is quoted on flood management.

Edmonton city council adopted a \$1.6 billion flood mitigation plan in 2019, said Knack, “because what used to be a one-in-100-year flood, when many of these neighborhoods were built, is now a far more common occurrence.”

This is a common misunderstanding of the term “1-in-a-100-year flood.”

Quoting the USGS:⁵⁰

How can we have two “100-year floods” in less than two years?

►► [Two 500-Year Floods Within 15 Years?](#)

Bob Holmes, the National Flood Coordinator for the USGS, discusses this in a podcast.
(From the USGS CoreCast podcast and video series)

This question points out the importance of proper terminology. The term “100-year flood” is used in an attempt **to simplify the definition of a flood that statistically has a 1-percent chance of occurring in any given year.** Likewise, the term “[100-year storm](#)” is used to define a rainfall event that statistically has this same 1-percent chance of occurring. In other words, over the course of 1 million years, these events would be expected to occur 10,000 times. But, just because it rained 10 inches in one day last year doesn’t mean it can’t rain 10 inches in one day again this year. [bold emphasis added]

The reason why there is more flooding in many urban centers is due to paving over or infilling wetlands and rapid population growth. People are invited to watch our video explainer on Toronto Flooding,⁵¹ with insights from Robert Muir, P. Eng.

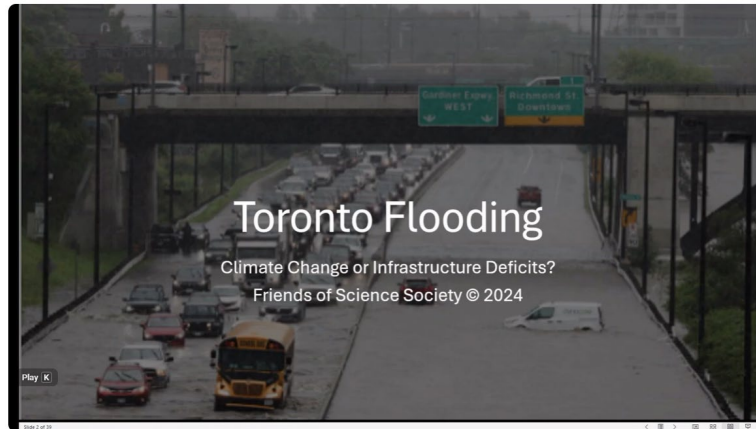
⁴⁷ <https://firesmartcanada.ca/>

⁴⁸ https://youtu.be/vL_syp1ZScM

⁴⁹ <https://loganlake.ca/your-municipality/firesmart-program/>

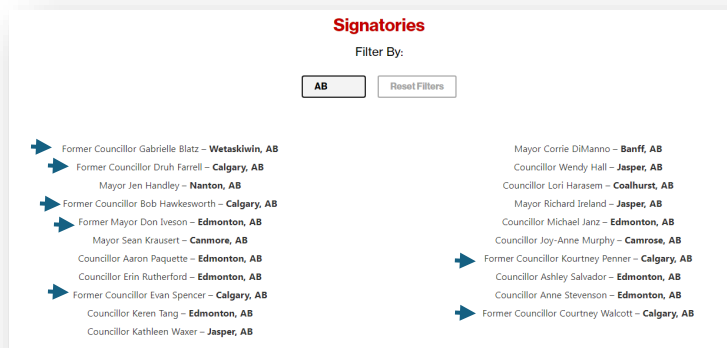
⁵⁰ <https://www.usgs.gov/water-science-school/science/100-year-flood>

⁵¹ https://youtu.be/_YRPei1-8hg



FORMER COUNCILLORS DO NOT REPRESENT THE ELECTORATE.

There are seven former councillors and Mayors listed as signatories in Alberta, versus 14 elected municipal officials. Former councillors do not represent the electorate – this is misleading and an inappropriate use of their former title.



ACTION ITEM: The province of Alberta, and other provinces as they see fit, should clarify what claims or roles former municipal officials are able to engage in, exploiting their past electoral status on such crucial topics of public policy.

SHOCKING ENERGY ILLITERACY OF MUNICIPAL LEADERS

The “Elbows Up” mayors are keen to build ‘clean’ energy power grids in all directions, EV bus fleets, national High-Speed Rail, Net Zero homes (below market price), mass retrofits, heat pumps and solar, with no apparent understanding that all of these proposals are hugely energy intense. Nor do the “Elbows Up” mayors seem to understand that Canada runs on ~80% fossil fuels, and only about 18% electricity, most of which comes from hydro, nuclear, and fossil fuels.

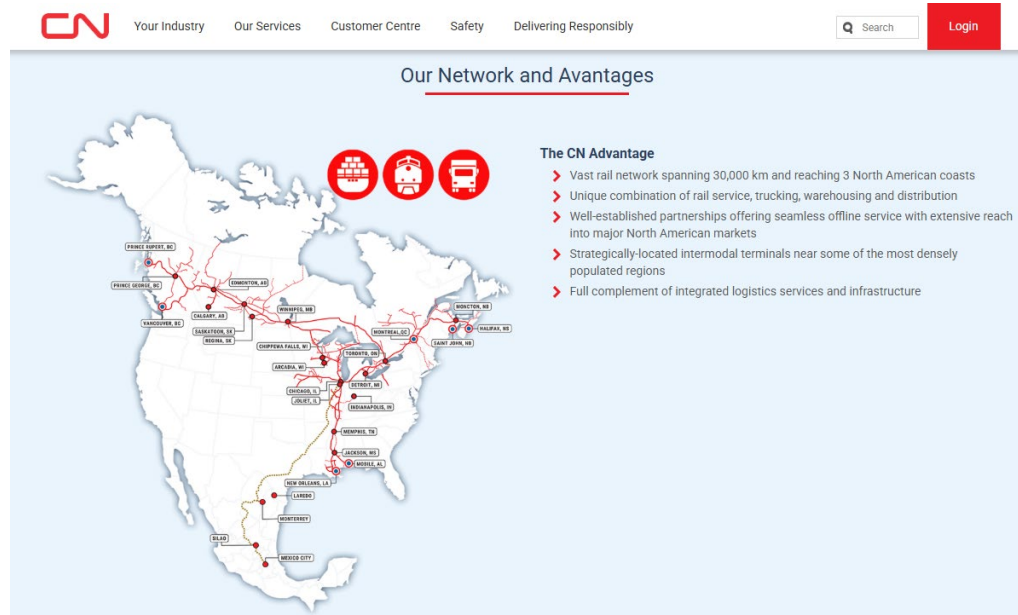
BETRAYAL OF YOUR CONSTITUENTS

The “Elbows Up” mayors plead at the end of their emotional manifesto:

“We are asking the federal government to stand with us: to reject fossil fuel projects that divide us, and get to work on practical and popular projects that won’t burn down our country – but build us up, Canada Strong.”

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Let us examine the City of Edmonton, capital city of Alberta for example. **Edmonton prides itself on being the “Gateway to the North” – a centre that UNITES us.** Edmonton features the Edmonton International Airport (jet fuel), the CN Rail Intermodal transportation centre, serving all North America (diesel rail and transport trucks). It is the cross point of the north leg of the Trans Canada Highway, the Yellowhead Highway into BC, the Alaska Highway north, the QEII south to Calgary, and Highway 63 North to Fort MacMurray and the oil sands, and the Mackenzie Highway north to NWT.



Canada’s critical infrastructure like railroads and highways are in desperate need of upgrades and expansion, just to continue to safely and efficiently do business, delivering goods across North America.

“ELBOWS UP” MAYORS ARE OBLIVIOUS TO THESE REAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

Obviously, if city mayors are unable to fill potholes in a timely way, demanding national high-speed rail and “clean” energy grids in all directions is a non-starter. Perhaps these “Elbows Up” people are not qualified for their positions.

Did the Edmontonians who voted for Mayor Andrew Knack, who work in remotely in oil, gas, or oil sands locations, or at the Industrial Heartland refineries, or for CN Rail and other transport operations dream that the Mayor of Edmonton actually thinks their daily work is *failing Canada*?

The **real** “practical and popular projects” are the conventional jobs that the “Elbows Up” mayors disdain. The conventional energy jobs deliver the “daily bread” to hundreds of thousands of workers, and millions of beneficiaries, whether those be the families of the employed in oil, gas, skilled trades, transportation, tourism, and related service industries, or those whose work and industries indirectly benefit, such as restaurants, personal care or services, like hair and nail salons, real estate agents, bookkeepers and accountants, car dealerships, specialty shops, dog walkers, and babysitters. **They also pay for the tax base for the City of Edmonton, and Mayor Knack and councillors’ salaries.**

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✦ AI Overview

The oil and gas industry is the cornerstone of Alberta's economy, accounting for roughly \$88 billion of the province's GDP and up to 25% of total economic output. The sector **drives record-breaking production, provides essential public revenue, and anchors the Canadian export market.** 📌 Canadian Association of Petroleum Pro... +1

The primary economic benefits include:

- **Government Revenue & Public Services:** The industry contributes billions in non-renewable resource royalties (generating over \$19 billion in recent peak years). These funds allow Alberta to sustain a high standard of living, fund healthcare and education, and maintain the lowest overall tax burden (with no provincial sales tax) in Canada. 📌 Government of Alberta +4
- **Job Creation:** The sector is a massive employer, supporting an estimated half a million direct and indirect jobs across a variety of fields, from pipeline transport and engineering to refining and support services. 📌 Canadian Association of Petroleum Pro... +2
- **Massive Export Power:** Alberta produces over 85% of Canada's oil and 60% of its natural gas. Oil and natural gas exports from the province are valued at over \$130 billion annually, representing more than 70% of Alberta's total exports and driving a positive national trade balance. 📌 Canadian Association of Petroleum Pro... +1
- **Private Sector Investment:** Oil and gas drives massive private capital investment in the province, historically acting as the leading catalyst for commercial development, technological innovation, and infrastructure. 📌 Fraser Institute +2

You can track up-to-date data on resource revenues through the official [Government of Alberta Oil Sands Facts and Statistics](#) portal, or explore nationwide economic contributions via [Canada Action](#). 📌

AI Overview

The oil and gas industry supports tens of thousands of jobs in the Greater Edmonton area, though exact city-specific numbers fluctuate. Province-wide, the sector accounts for roughly 150,000 direct jobs, with regional estimates placing a significant portion of these roles and thousands more indirect supply-chain jobs within the Edmonton metropolitan footprint. [Canadian Association of Petroleum Pro... +2](#)

The local employment footprint linked to the oil and gas industry breaks down into several key categories:

Direct and Support Employment

- **Extraction & Services:** In the Greater Edmonton region, thousands of workers are directly tied to upstream drilling, oilsands operations, and local field services. [LinkedIn +2](#)
- **Supply Chain & Manufacturing:** Edmonton serves as a major manufacturing and servicing hub. Thousands of local machinists, welders, equipment manufacturers, and transportation operators depend on corporate and field energy activity. [LinkedIn +3](#)

Provincial Context & Multipliers

- **Provincial Direct Jobs:** There are roughly 150,200 direct jobs in the Alberta mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction sector.
- **Indirect & Induced Jobs:** Energy sector data indicates roughly 1.5 indirect jobs are created for every direct job. This means the industry ultimately supports approximately half a million direct, indirect, and induced jobs across the province, with Edmonton capturing a massive share of this economic activity. [Canadian Association of Petroleum Pro... +3](#)

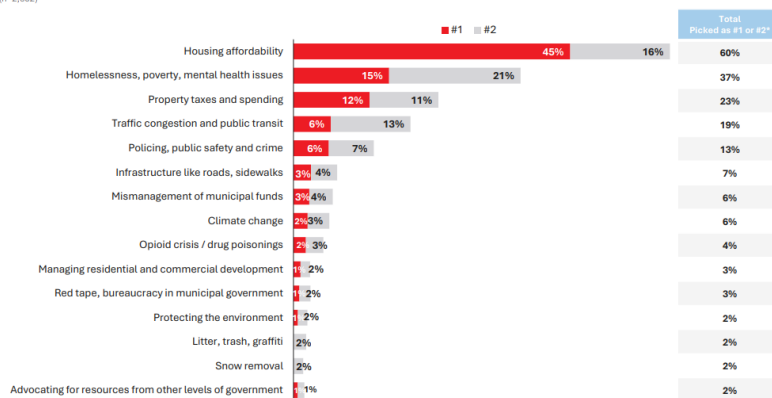
MISPLACED PRIORITIES LEADS TO MISALLOCATION OF FUNDS

The “Elbows Up for Climate” manifesto does not realistically address a single priority of the Top Municipal Issues in this Leger poll.

Leger

Top Municipal Issues – All respondents

Q1. What is the number one issue facing your municipality? Number two issue?
Base: All respondents (n=2,602)



*Only issues selected by more than 1% of respondents as the most important or the second most important are presented.

Further, the demand of the “Elbows Up” mayors, “*to reject fossil fuel projects*”, means that as the world reaches “**Jet Zero**”⁵² due to the energy deficit and lack of jet fuel in the world, which will be ongoing for months if not years, then one can expect to have a collapse of high value tourism in all Canadian cities, but particularly Jasper, where most visitors come from international destinations. Ironically, as Prime Minister Carney likes to say, “Canada has what the world wants”, but thanks to the bevy of misinformed climate activists, including the “Elbows Up” mayors and councillors, it is impossible to get more oil/gas products to revenue-earning international markets.

AI Overview

Most tourists to Jasper National Park come from **international destinations**, which account for over half of all annual visitors. Within Canada, **Alberta** is the largest domestic source market (about 1-in-5 visitors). Globally, top international visitors arrive primarily from the **United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Germany, and China**. [Destination Canada +2](#)

Visitor demographics typically break down as follows:

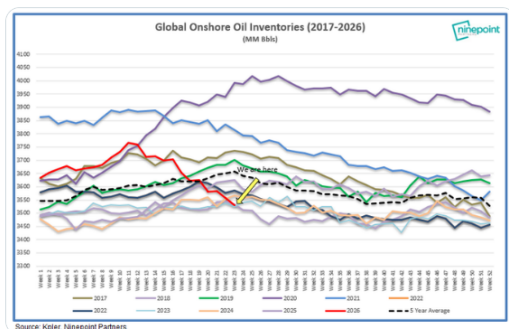
- **Canada:** The majority of Canadian tourists are domestic travelers, with local, regional hubs like **Edmonton** and **Calgary** driving heavy year-round and weekend traffic. [Banff Jasper Collection +2](#)
- **United States:** Represents the largest international market, consistently ranking as the leading source of overseas visitors to the Canadian Rockies. [Destination Canada +1](#)
- **Overseas Markets:** Key global contributors are the United Kingdom, Australia, and Germany, alongside emerging markets like China and South Korea. [Destination Canada](#)



Eric Nuttall
@ericnuttall



Widespread frustration and confusion felt by many, from casual observers to industry veterans. The ultimate cure for apathy is tank bottoms which no fake or obfuscating tweet can hide. That seems likely and imminent if the status quo persists which remains our base case.



5:58 AM · Jun 11, 2026 · 61.2K Views

18 114 656 41

The ~300 mayors and councillors who claim to represent half of the Canadian population seem to be blind to the consequences of fossil fuel shortages for their constituents.

⁵² <https://youtu.be/oHcbSzUcMFU>

The City of Edmonton consumes approximately **3.2 to 3.7 million litres** of motor gasoline per day. This estimate is based on the city's population of roughly 1.1 million, factoring in Alberta's historical per-capita motor gasoline demand of about 1,219 litres annually, and excluding heavy-duty commercial diesel use. 🔴 Régie de l'énergie du Canada +1

While exact daily municipal usage figures for the Edmonton region are not published independently, the region consumes approximately **5.4 million to 6.2 million litres of diesel per day**.

This estimate is derived from provincial statistics: Alberta accounts for a disproportionate share of Canada's diesel use due to its heavy industrial and agricultural economies, demanding nearly 1,393 litres per capita annually—80% above the national average. 🔴 Régie de l'énergie du Canada +1

Robert Lyman, taking inspiration from a similar thought experiment by blogger and chemist Blair King of B.C.,⁵³ outlined what kind of chaos would ensue in Ontario from a sudden loss of fossil fuels. It would not be the Garden of Eden that climate activists dream of.⁵⁴

On day one without fossil fuels, all transportation systems (except a few electrically powered streetcars and a few thousand electric vehicles) would immediately stop. Stores would stop receiving supplies, as all supplies are transported from warehouses by gasoline or diesel-powered transport trucks. No new supplies would get to the warehouses, as the semi trucks that transport them depend on diesel fuel, as do railway systems. Transport aircraft rely on aviation and jet fuel, and container ships rely on bunker fuel or diesel. Soon, the people living in urban areas like Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton, London and Windsor would be first bidding for, and then fighting over, the remaining scraps in the stores. Once those supplies were gone, there would be nothing to replace them. There simply are not enough horses or horse-drawn wagons to move goods and food from the rural areas into the cities....

Within a couple of months (weeks if in winter), the city-centres would look like a scene from an apocalyptic science fiction movie, with corpses everywhere as the weakest lost out in battle for the quickly diminishing supplies of food, water and wood. Without working toilets and sewer systems, those still alive would be fighting dysentery, as human waste polluted the limited freshwater supplies. Anyone who could would move away from the city centres as quickly as possible to forage as far as they could roam on foot and on the remaining bicycles (the horses having been eaten).

This is the opposite of “Build Canada Strong.”

⁵³ A Chemist in Langley

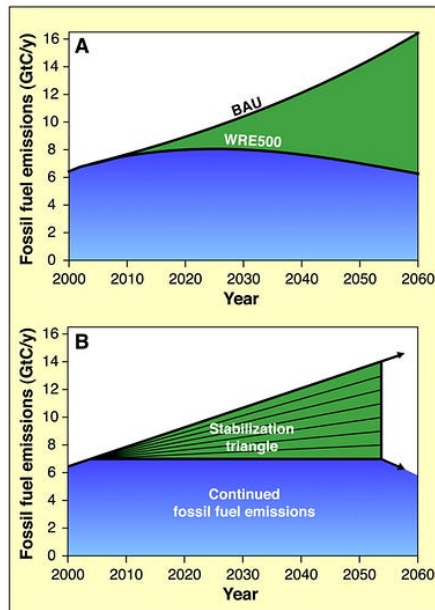
⁵⁴ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2018/05/13/how-reliant-on-fossils-fuels-are-people-in-ontario/>

ANOTHER PILLAR OF CLIMATE ADVOCACY COLLAPSES – ROGER PIELKE, JR.

Excerpt: The 2004 "stabilization wedges" paper wrongly told the world that we had all the technology we needed to solve climate change. We just learned it was ghost-written by BP. Here is the bigger picture.⁵⁵

In 2004, Princeton academics Stephen Pacala and Robert Socolow published "Stabilization Wedges: Solving the Climate Problem for the Next 50 Years with Current Technologies" in *Science*.

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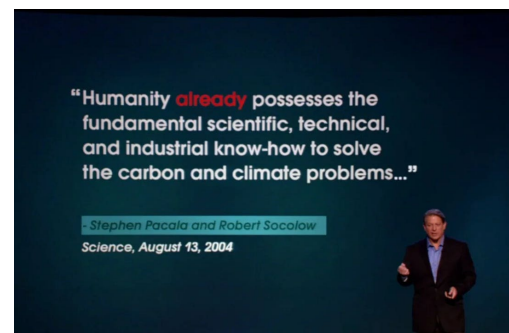


A key figure from Pacala and Socolow (2004).

The reference to 'wedges', as the work became known, comes from the above graphic. Pielke, Jr., writes: "Each wedge in the Pacala-Socolow framework represented a strategy that, if deployed and scaled up over 50 years, would avoid the emission of one billion tons of carbon per year by 2054."

THE WEDGES QUICKLY MOVED TO THE CENTER OF THE CLIMATE MOVEMENT

The Wedges claim that we had all the technology we needed became the intellectual foundation for a major coordinated philanthropic enterprise focused on a promoting one perspective on climate policy while silencing all others.



Turns out, that is not true.

⁵⁵ https://open.substack.com/pub/rogerpielkejr/p/another-pillar-of-climate-advocacy?r=f96qu&utm_campaign=post-expanded-share&utm_medium=web

Excerpt of Roger Pielke, Jr.'s article:

Thanks to the work of Matthew Nisbet, then at American University, we have a picture of how this movement developed. Nisbet documented the dynamics in his important 2011 report, [Climate Shift](#), which examined the financial resources, strategies, and communication choices of the dominant organizations advocating for action on climate change.

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Nisbet explains that in 2007, the Packard, Doris Duke, Energy, Joyce, Oak, and Hewlett Foundations commissioned a report” [Design to Win: Philanthropy’s Role in the Fight Against Global Warming](#). The report treated the Wedges perspective on available technologies as fact.

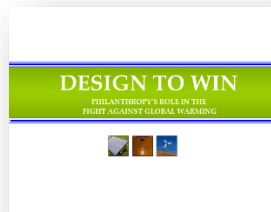
The report explained that for climate advocates, the top priority was political and regulatory — block fossil fuels, promote efficiency and renewables, win the political fight. R&D and innovation were treated as secondary at best to the political and regulatory fight — or worse, as cover for opposition to climate policies.

The Hewlett, Packard, and McKnight Foundations then [launched ClimateWorks Foundation](#) with more than \$1.1 billion in committed funding to implement the *Design to Win* strategy.

Questioning whether the Wedges analysis was correct or discussing the need for technological innovation risked serious professional repercussions, as well-funded and powerful climate advocates of the era were quick to punish anyone deviating from orthodoxy.

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Several of the large philanthropies mentioned above are also linked to the Tar Sands Campaign against Alberta’s oil sands.



[https://blog.friendsofscience.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/design\\_to\\_win\\_final\\_8\\_31\\_07.pdf](https://blog.friendsofscience.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/design_to_win_final_8_31_07.pdf)



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Grant Making Criteria

Letters of Enquiry

Grant Application Procedures

Grant Database

Frequently Asked Questions

Home » Tar Sands Campaign

Tar Sands Campaign

Organisation:

ForestEthics

Website:

[www.forestethics.org](http://www.forestethics.org)

Amount:

USD 299,879

Purpose:

To minimise Tar Sands impacts by 1) creating a perception of economic risk, whereby Tar Sands imports become less attractive to US corporations and, the Canadian government questions its unbridled support for expanded and unregulated development; 2) placing a hard cap on Tar Sands emissions to slow expansion and clean up operations; and 3) addressing the environmental impacts of Tar Sands to limit toxic pollution of water and air and respect Aboriginal Treaty Rights. ForestEthics will work with at least 10 Fortune 500 companies to publicly disavow Tar Sands fuel and to purchase fuel from less polluting sources; work with at least one of these companies to exert influence within the US Government to support regulations that will disadvantage Tar Sands fuel; and stop Enbridge's proposed Northern Gateway pipeline which would carry Tar Sands oil from Alberta through BC's pristine wilderness to an oil tanker port on the coast for shipment to Asia.

Programme:

Environment

Sub-programme:

Climate Change North America

Country:

United States

Year Awarded:

2010

Startdate:

1-Aug-10

Enddate:

1-Aug-12

Duration:

24months

Excerpts from Nisbet's "Climate Shift." "Design to Win" plans for philanthropies to fund environmental groups to promote policies, *as if* from the 'grassroots', in reality, promoting Global Cap and Trade Policies intended to cause a "Sea Change in the Global Economy". **For carbon trading, you need a price on carbon.**

In 2006, several of the country's wealthiest foundations hired a consulting firm to comprehensively survey the available scientific literature and to consult more than 150 leading climate change and energy experts. The result of this intensive undertaking was the 2007 report *Design to Win: Philanthropy's Role in the Fight Against Global Warming*.

Leading the report was the recommendation that "tempering climate change" required a strong cap and trade policy in the United States and the European Union, and a binding international agreement on greenhouse gas emissions. The report predicted that passage of cap and trade legislation would "prompt a sea change that washes over the entire global economy." The report included little to no discussion of the role of government and philanthropy in directly sponsoring the creation of new energy technologies. The report is additionally notable for the absence of any meaningful discussion of social, political or cultural dimensions of the challenge.

To understand how this planning document shaped the investment strategies of major foundations, I analyzed available records as of January 2011 for 1,246 climate change and energy-related grants distributed by nine aligned foundations between 2008 and 2010. These aligned foundations are among the wealthiest in the country, include several of the top funders of environment-related programs, and were either sponsors of the *Design to Win* report or describe themselves as following its recommendations. The foundations analyzed were the David and Lucile Packard Foundation (#1 in environmental funding for 2009), the Sea Change Foundation (#4), the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation (#5), the Kresge Foundation (#13), the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (#24), the McKnight Foundation (#39), the Oak Foundation (#41), the Energy Foundation and ClimateWorks.

It should be noted that the Trottier Family Foundation, according to Eric St. Pierre's "Good COP, Bad COP" article cited earlier, works with ClimateWorks Foundation, authors of the "Design to Win" plan.

## IN SUMMARY

The premise of the “Elbows Up” mayors seems to be that the ‘climate action’ they demand in their manifesto will stop wildfires, floods, and global warming. None of that is true.

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We have shown that the claim of a climate emergency was based on the misuse of RCP 8.5/SSP5-8.5 as if the ‘business-as-usual’ case, when the scenario was completely implausible. RCP 8.5 has been officially sidelined. The perceived climate emergency is over. Now rational energy policies must be implemented.

Wind, solar, battery storage have been offered as the solutions to stop global warming. In fact, on a local/regional basis, wind farms *cause* warming<sup>56</sup> and dry the soil,<sup>57</sup> especially problematic in agricultural areas. Large solar power plants increase local warming.<sup>58</sup> We have learned that despite being told ‘we have the solutions’ that stemmed from an academic paper ghost written by Big Oil – British Petroleum, that in fact we do not have the solutions in wind and solar or other ‘clean’ tech. To get wind you need oil,<sup>59</sup> and as Vaclav Smil points out, “We are a fossil fueled civilization and will be for a very long time.”<sup>60</sup>

The constituents of the mayors and councillors who signed the “Elbows Up” demand were never consulted by their elected officials; Canada’s international reputation and very survival is at stake, as is the slated July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, submission of Alberta’s proposal for a new oil pipeline to the West Coast. Curious timing.

It is clear that undue influence is at play in climate politics. Taxpayers and voters are largely unaware that their tax dollar and votes, intended to build and maintain civic services, are being misdirected to green crony climate projects that people never voted for.

We hope this has been an informative analysis. If the mayors and councillors have any integrity at all, they will retract their joint “Elbows Up” statement and apologize to their electorates.



<sup>56</sup> <https://www.technologyreview.com/2018/10/04/139905/wide-scale-us-wind-power-could-cause-significant-warming/>

<sup>57</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0048969722063926>

<sup>58</sup> <https://www.nature.com/articles/srep35070>

<sup>59</sup> <https://spectrum.ieee.org/to-get-wind-power-you-need-oil>

<sup>60</sup> <https://youtu.be/5guXaWwQpe4?t=412>



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR\* MOST CITED IN THIS REPORT

Robert Lyman is an economist with 27 years of experience as an analyst, policy advisor and manager in the Canadian federal government, primarily in the areas of energy, transportation, and environmental policy. He was also a diplomat for 10 years. Subsequently he has worked as a private consultant conducting policy research and analysis on energy and transportation issues as a principal for Entrans Policy Research Group. He is a frequent contributor of articles and reports for Friends of Science, a Calgary-based independent organization concerned about climate change-related issues. He resides in Ottawa, Canada. [Full bio.](#)

*\*This report was compiled by Friends of Science Society; Robert Lyman's work is frequently cited.*

## ABOUT FRIENDS OF SCIENCE SOCIETY

Friends of Science Society is an independent group of earth, atmospheric and solar scientists, engineers, and citizens that is celebrating its 23rd year of offering climate science insights. After a thorough review of a broad spectrum of literature on climate change, Friends of Science Society has concluded that the sun is the main driver of climate change, not carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>).

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