

## CANADA'S CLIMATE EMERGENCY

With all-time record-breaking heat across our riding, flood evacuation alerts, and billions of marine organisms boiling to death in the month of June, last summer has served as a clear reminder that we are living in a climate emergency, and we are not immune from the impacts of it locally. The deadly and damaging floods and slides that took place across BC last fall show how extreme weather effects can in fact worsen and reinforce each other. The Government of Canada is taking ambitious action to ensure that we are

reducing our own greenhouse gas emissions, as well as preparing our communities to adapt and be resilient to an already changing climate.

### Legislating Canada's Climate Targets into Law

Throughout Canada's history, our country has set greenhouse gas reduction targets without a realistic plan to meet them. It is no surprise they were never met. That must now change with the passing into law on June 29, 2021 of Bill C-12, the "Net Zero Climate Accountability Act". This is the most important piece of climate legislation in our country's history, which requires, among other things, that Canada:

- (1) Legislate ambitious emissions reduction targets every five years
- (2) Produce detailed plans to meet each milestone
- (3) Have independent and frequent progress reporting
- (4) Embed our new 2030 emissions reduction target, of a 40-45% reduction below 2005 levels, into legislation



## A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT AND A HEALTHY ECONOMY

Canada's strengthened climate plan, *A Healthy Environment and a Healthy Economy*, guides Canada to meet the challenges of climate change while seizing the opportunities in a cleaner economy. This December 2020 plan, and measures announced in Budget 2021, have put Canada on a trajectory to reduce emissions by 36% below 2005 levels by 2030, whereas Canada was on a trajectory to increase emissions by 12% by 2030 in 2015. A total of \$60 billion was invested from 2015-2019 toward climate action and clean growth, and a further \$53.6 billion since fall 2020 to ensure Canada has a green recovery from COVID-19. Additional measures announced in the previous months will allow Canada to meet our enhanced target by 2030. The following are several highlights of the 64 new measures in this plan.

### Continuing to Ensure Pollution Isn't Free and Households Get More Money Back

The most efficient way of reducing emissions is through pricing pollution, which is why Canada has ensured a nation-wide price on carbon, while providing rebates so that more money goes back to 9/10 households. The IMF sees Canada's system as "a model for

other large-emitting countries to follow", with a price that will rise each year by \$15/tonne until it reaches \$170/tonne by 2030, which will make it the highest price on pollution in the world. Combined with Clean Fuel Standard, these two mechanisms provide the price signals for businesses and individuals to make greener choices and invest in the technologies that reduce emissions and drive green growth in Canada.

### Building Canada's Clean Industrial Advantage

Canada's position in the Global Cleantech Innovation Index has risen from 7th in 2014 to 2nd in 2021, and this ingenuity is critical to reducing emissions from Canada's largest sources. To ensure these businesses grow, create local jobs, and provide the technology that the world needs, corporate taxes are being halved for companies that manufacture zero-emissions technologies.

Canada is also investing in projects that eliminate emissions from the production of steel, aluminum, and cement while helping position Canada to build the entire supply chain for electric vehicles. At the COP26 Climate Conference in Glasgow, the

Government of Canada announced that it will be instituting a hard and steadily declining limit on emissions from the oil and gas sector to ensure our largest source of emissions will decline at a pace that will allow us to be net zero by 2050. Paired with stringent regulations and pollution pricing mechanisms, we are seeing both new and existing companies invest in producing cleaner products and creating local jobs and opportunities.



Visiting Carbon Engineering in Squamish, 2021 North American Cleantech company of the year

### Making Clean, Affordable Transportation and Power Available in Every Canadian Community

While 82% of Canada's electricity comes from non-emitting sources, transportation accounts for a quarter of Canada's emissions. That is why Canada is providing \$5,000 rebates to make zero-emissions vehicles more affordable and supporting the construction of charging stations across the country. So far, 92,000 individuals and businesses have accessed this rebate, and over 16,500 chargers have been built across Canada.

In June 2021, I announced a \$2.35 billion investment to install 47 electric vehicle fast chargers across the Province, including in Horseshoe Bay, Pemberton, and Sechelt.

The Government of Canada has also provided \$28 billion to support public transit projects, while launching Canada's first Active Transportation Fund to ensure Canadians have access

to the cleanest and healthiest forms of transportation.

This will build on last summer's federal investment of over \$3.3 million into active transportation projects in the riding, including building a separated multi-use pathway network around the District of Sechelt, restoring sections of the Baden Powell Trail in West Vancouver, and building a section of the cross island multi-use path on Bowen Island.

### Making the Places Canadians Live and Gather More Affordable by Cutting Energy Waste

Retrofitting our homes and businesses creates good local jobs, saves money on electricity/heating bills, and lowers our emissions. Through the Canada Greener Homes Grant, homeowners can access grants of up to \$5,000 to make retrofits to their homes. A new program will soon be launched to provide \$40,000 no-interest loans for homeowners to undertake deeper retrofits.



EV charging station in Horseshoe Bay

### Embracing Nature-Based Solutions to Fight Climate Change

Protecting and restoring nature can be one of the most effective ways of fighting and becoming resilient to climate change. The Government of Canada is in the process of planting billions of trees over the next decade and supporting a transition to more regenerative agriculture, which increases productivity while capturing more carbon out of the atmosphere. In addition to our commitment to protect 30% of Canada's land and oceans by 2030, the federal government has committed to working with the Province of British Columbia to protect our last remaining old growth forests, which are hugely important carbon sinks and habitat for species at risk.

### Working to Make Communities More Resilient to Climate Change

Communities across our riding and the country increasingly experience more extreme weather events at all times of the year. We know that flooding, wildfire, extreme heat, the spread of infectious disease, and sea level rise are just some of the climate related impacts. The Government of Canada is working closely with the provincial government and has committed \$5 billion to the rebuilding of BC from the fall flooding, while we support communities to update flood mapping across the country, invest in fire managements activities, and work towards a national adaptation strategy by the end of 2022.



Announcing Sechelt's multi-use path with MLA Simons & Mayor Siegers

Communities need the resources to fully respond to these challenges, so they can fashion on-the-ground responses. Through programs such as the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund and the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream, the Government of Canada is working with local partners to do just that.

Examples of what these partnerships look like locally include recently announced federal funding for the Resort Municipality of Whistler to create fuel breaks as barriers to stop or slow the spread of potential wildfires in the Nesters Hill area. It includes a \$1.4 million federal investment to upgrade the Squamish River Dike to protect our community from potential floods. It is also a nearly \$400,000 investment in upgrading the Lions Bay Emergency Building for fire, search and rescue, and ambulance services.



## PATRICK WEILER

Member of Parliament

West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country

[f](#) /PatrickBWeiler [t](#) @PatrickBWeiler [i](#) @PatrickBWeiler

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

On September 20, 2021, I was re-elected as your Member of Parliament to serve as your voice in Ottawa. It is an honour to continue serving as your representative in the 44th Parliament, and I am thankful for the trust you have put in me.

Canadians have told us that they want us to work together in parliament to build on the progress we have made as we build back better from the COVID-19 pandemic. I am committed to doing just that, and cultivating the spirit of cooperation that characterized the way in which three important pieces of legislation were passed by parliamentarians in the last two months of 2021.

The events of the summer and fall of 2021 have reinforced the urgency for Canada to accelerate on the path forward on reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, as well as to mitigate and adapt to the climate emergency we are living in. From the discoveries of unmarked graves at residential schools in the spring, the "heat dome" in the summer and the devastating flooding and mudslides in the fall, 2021 was a difficult year for British Columbia. This newsletter contains a brief update on the Government of Canada's ongoing work in responding to these essential areas.

With the easing of provincial restrictions on travel and gatherings last summer and fall, in-person events throughout our region became possible. This newsletter contains an update on a variety of local announcements, projects, and programs in the three distinct regions of our riding that I had the opportunity to do in person.

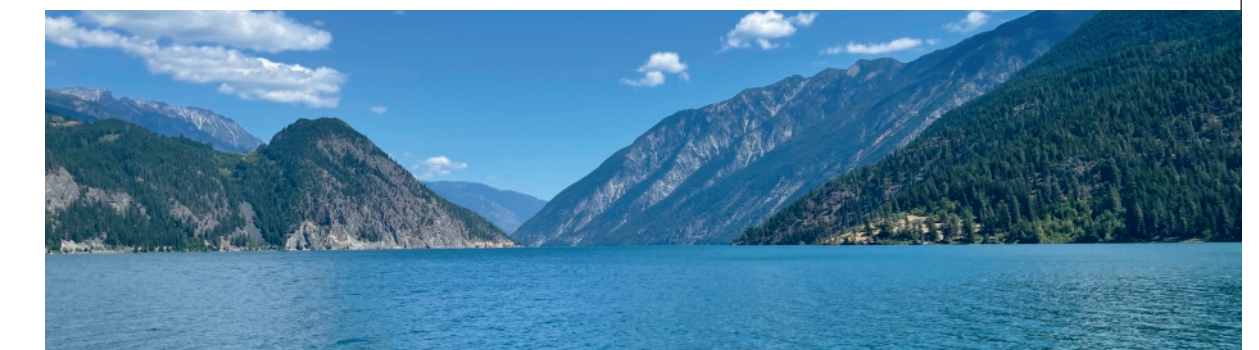
A reminder that my office is happy to assist you and your loved ones with any casework questions including issues or concerns with any federal department or agency such as Service Canada (includes but not limited to OAS, GIS, EI or CPP), Canada Revenue Agency, Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada, Passport Canada, Phoenix Pay System, Veterans Affairs or Indigenous Affairs. Please do not hesitate to contact me and my office through the contact information listed to the right.

Thank you again for placing your faith in me as your Member of Parliament. I promise to work hard to deliver for you, your loved ones, and our community in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Patrick Weiler, MP

Photo: Anderson Lake



## MP Newsletter: Climate Change & Reconciliation Edition

### CONTACT US

#### CONSTITUENCY OFFICE

6367 Bruce Street  
West Vancouver BC

V7W 2G5  
Tel. 604-913-2660  
Fax. 604-913-2664

[Patrick.Weiler@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Patrick.Weiler@parl.gc.ca)  
[patrickweiler.libparl.ca](http://patrickweiler.libparl.ca)

Scan the QR Code below to visit our website

