

Powering Canada's Future: A Clean Electricity Strategy

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It is easy to see the need for climate action wherever we look. Every year, as the world gets a little warmer, the extreme weather events only intensify – from deadlier heatwaves and more destructive wildfires and floods to droughts and melting glaciers. The catastrophic impact is equally obvious. More climate-related health issues. And record financial losses and property damage.

One thing we sometimes fail to see in our changing climate is opportunity – not just to create a more sustainable natural environment but to transform our national economy; to launch entire new industries and reimagine existing ones, all while creating good, highly-skilled, well-paying jobs in every sector of the economy and every region of the country. [...]

Climate action has the potential to be the biggest job-creator in modern Canadian history, and it's already happening. Our clean technology sector, alone, has been growing more than three times faster than the national average. According to the International Energy Agency's 2024 [World Energy Employment](#) report, the number of people working in the global clean energy sector has already surpassed those in the world's oil and gas industry. And these trends will only accelerate in Canada because our plan to fight climate change is also a plan to grow a strong and prosperous economy. Over the next five years, Canada's clean energy gross domestic product is projected to reach \$107 billion – driven by some \$58 billion in annual investments by 2030, and more than 600,000 jobs.

Climate inaction, on the other hand, would represent a threat to our economy, our jobs, and our very way of life. Our changing climate is already costing Canadians billions of dollars a year for everything from lost income to uninsurable property damage and massive repair bills for vital infrastructure. Summer 2024, for example, was the costliest season for natural disasters in Canadian history, with the bill pegged at more than \$7 billion. Future inaction would raise that financial impact to the tens of billions of dollars annually by 2050, and then increase dramatically to more than half-a-trillion dollars a year in 2100.

We can avoid such devastating losses, and create a more sustainable, affordable future, by building a clean energy economy. What's more, we overlook this potential at our own peril. Around the globe, governments and financial markets are searching for long-term gains. We are seeing it in the climate ambitions, and we are seeing it with major competitors, such as China. China is now the number one developer and user of renewable energy technology, one of the top developers and manufacturers of electric vehicles, as well as the largest market [...]. We cannot allow our competitors to take the lead in this important economic, geopolitical, and social domain, and nor can we be reliant on governments to power the economy.

Canada is enormously well placed to seize the opportunities of a low-carbon future to create wealth and prosperity in every province and territory fast. We have the resources of the land and the resourcefulness of our people to be a global leader in the industries and clean technologies of today and tomorrow – everything from critical minerals and processing to electric vehicles and battery manufacturing, to biofuels, nuclear energy, hydrogen, renewables and a range of technologies in which Canada leads, including carbon capture, use and storage. We also have the skilled workforce, human rights protections, and environmental standards to get it done right.

Name: Canada's clean energy - writing a summary

- ① Summarize the positive effects of climate action as well as the negative effects of climate inaction for Canada that the authors state.



Vocabulary

sustainable = nachhaltig
to launch = einführen, starten
to surpass = übertreffen
to accelerate = beschleunigen
prosperous = wohlhabend
clean energy gross domestic product is projected to reach = das Bruttoinlandsprodukt für saubere Energie wird voraussichtlich erreichen...
uninsurable = nicht versicherbar
to peg = festlegen, verankern, hier: die Rechnung steht bei...
peril = Gefahr
to seize = ergreifen