



CAPE
Canadian Association
of Physicians
for the Environment

Association Canadienne
des Médecins
pour l'Environnement
ACME

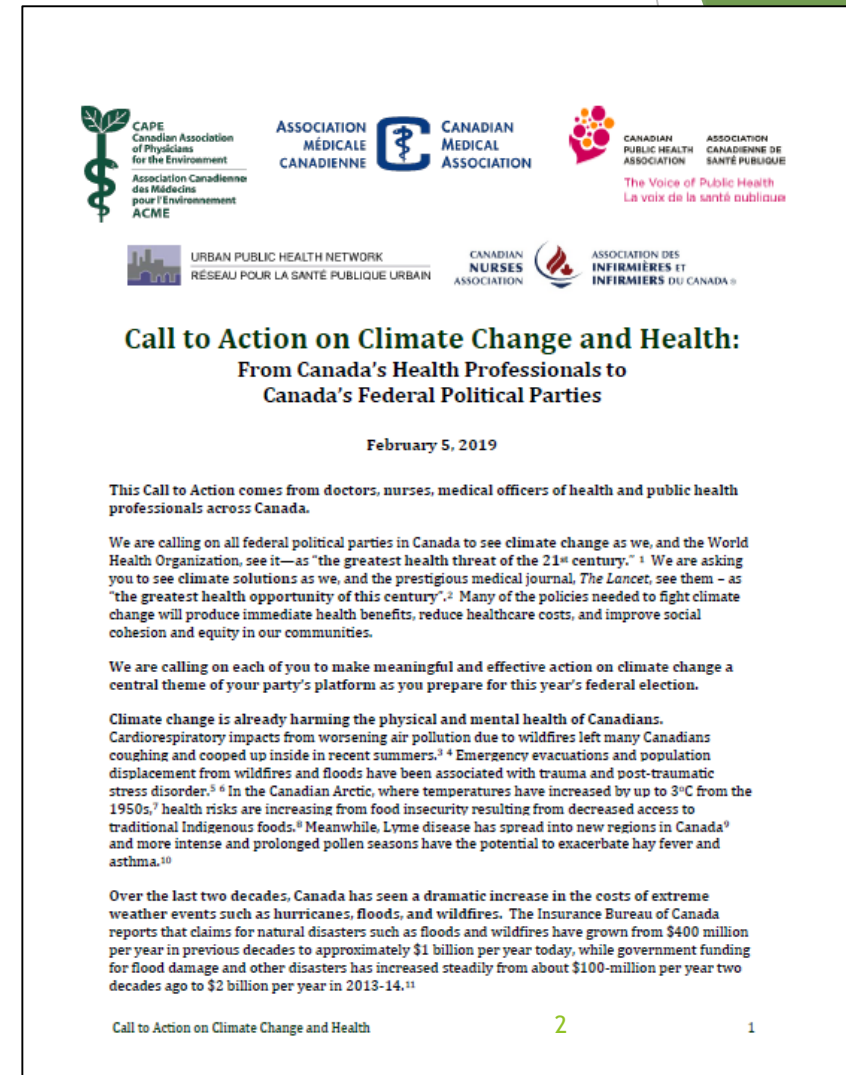
CALL TO ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH

Prepared by Kim Perrotta, CAPE Executive Director - May 2019

Call to Action on Climate Change and Health

- ▶ CAPE
- ▶ Canadian Medical Association
- ▶ Canadian Nurses Association
- ▶ Urban Public Health Network
- ▶ Canadian Public Health Association
- ▶ February 5, 2019

<https://cape.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/2019-Call-to-Action-Feb-5-2019-FINAL.pdf>



Health of Canadians Already Impacted

- ▶ **Cardiorespiratory impacts** from worsening air pollution due to wildfires
- ▶ **Trauma & PTSD** from emergency evacuations & displacement from wildfires and floods.
- ▶ Increasing **food insecurity** in Canadian Arctic from decreased access to traditional Indigenous foods.
- ▶ **Lyme disease** has spread into new regions in Canada.
- ▶ **Extreme weather events** are increasing in frequency and intensity.



Photos: Dan Tobias, Ice Fishing; Tornado, & Thinkstock, Ottawa

Summer of 2018 - CC Became Real for Canadians

- ▶ In 2018, tens of thousands of Canadians had their lives, jobs or homes threatened by:
 - ▶ Wildfires
 - ▶ Extreme heat
 - ▶ Power outages
 - ▶ Tornadoes
 - ▶ Floods



Extreme Heat - Summer of 2018

2018 - Millions of Canadians in Central & Eastern Canada exposed to high # of days with extreme heat

In Toronto:

- ▶ Temperatures exceeded 30°C for 21 days
- ▶ 30-year average of 12.2 days/year until 2005

In Quebec:

- ▶ It was reported that extreme heat claimed the lives of more than 90 people in one week

Prepared by Kim Perrotta, CAPE Executive Director - May 2019

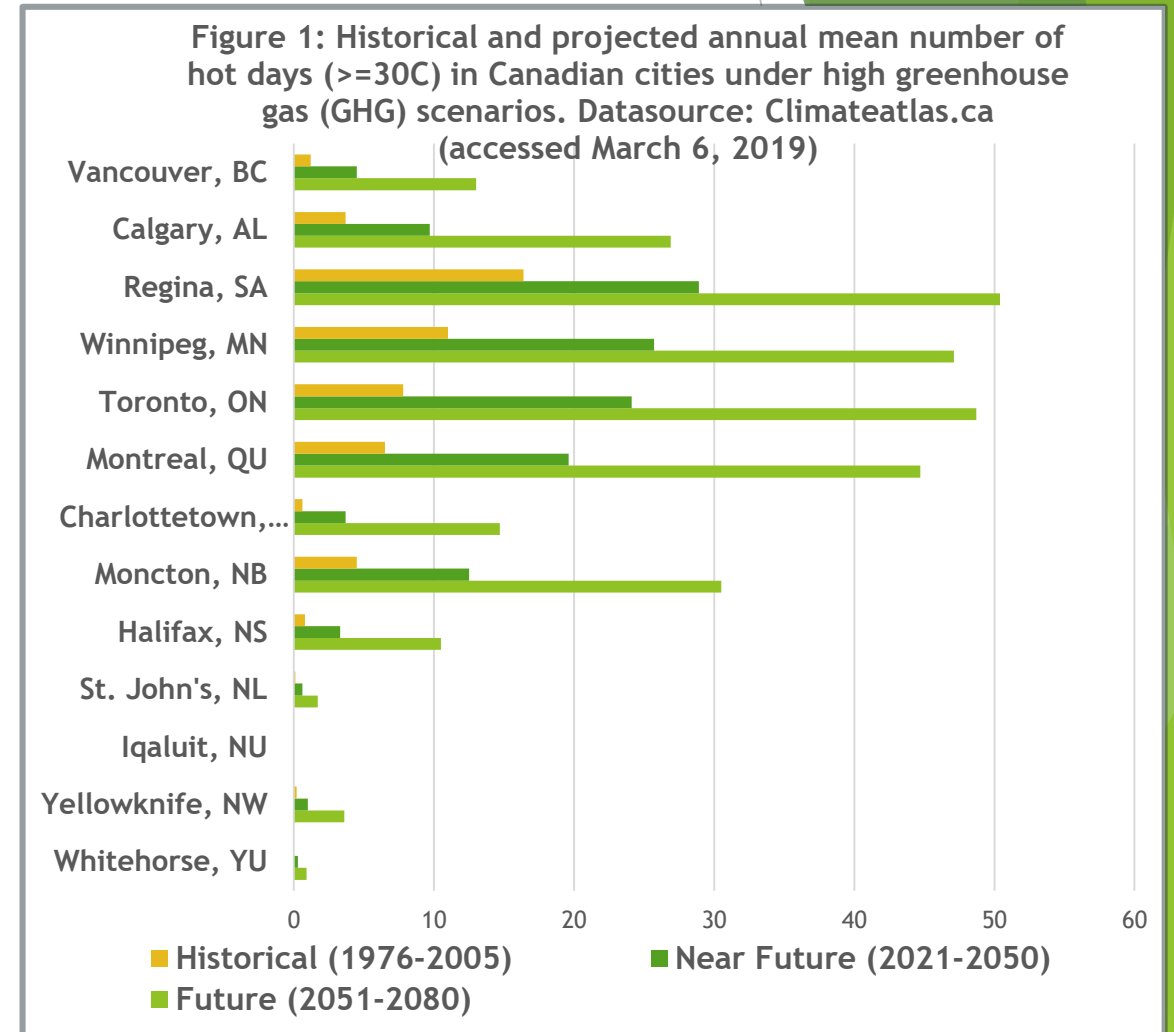


Figure - CAPE Toolkit Module 3, 2019

Wildfires & Smoke - Summer of 2018

- ▶ BC declared a provincial state of emergency - fought to contain nearly 600 wildfires
- ▶ Thousands were evacuated from their homes; thousands on notice
- ▶ Millions were exposed to air pollution rated as “high risk” and “very high risk” for days or weeks because of smoke from wildfires.
- ▶ AQHI - 8, 10 and 10+
- ▶ Calgary, Vancouver & Edmonton



Photos: Thinkstock, Wildfire Smoke

2018 Lancet Countdown - Health & Climate Change

“Trends in climate change impacts, exposures, and vulnerabilities demonstrate an unacceptably high level of risk for the current and future health of populations across the world...”

- ▶ 712 extreme weather events occurred in 2017 resulting in US\$326 billion in economic losses
- ▶ 157 million more people were exposed to heat waves in 2017 than in 2000
- ▶ 3.4 billion weeks of work were lost in 2017
- ▶ Agricultural yield potential decreasing in the 30 countries.

Identified under-nutrition as the largest health impact of climate change in the 21st century.



Photo: Stencil, Hurricane, Puerto Rico

International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Compared Impacts of 1.5 & 2.0 °C

- ▶ IPCC examined the impact of 1.5 & 2.0 °C of warming in an 800 page report - released in the fall 2018
- ▶ It concluded that:
 - ▶ 1.5 °C would amplify all of the effects we are experiencing now
 - ▶ 2.0 °C would be so much greater for ecological systems and human health
- ▶ **E.g. With 2.0 °C of warming, several hundred million more people would be exposed to climate-related risks and susceptible to poverty by 2050**



Photo: 1a_Photography

Paris Agreement - 2015 - 195 Countries

Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

- ▶ Agreed to: hold global warming well below 2°C and to pursue efforts to limit global warming to 1.5°C
- ▶ We are 11 years from 1.5°C
- ▶ Current trajectories have the world on course for 2.6 to 4.8°C of warming by 2100.
- ▶ To prevent 2°C, the IPCC concluded that collectively we have to cut climate emission by:
 - ▶ 45% by 2030 and
 - ▶ to zero by 2050.

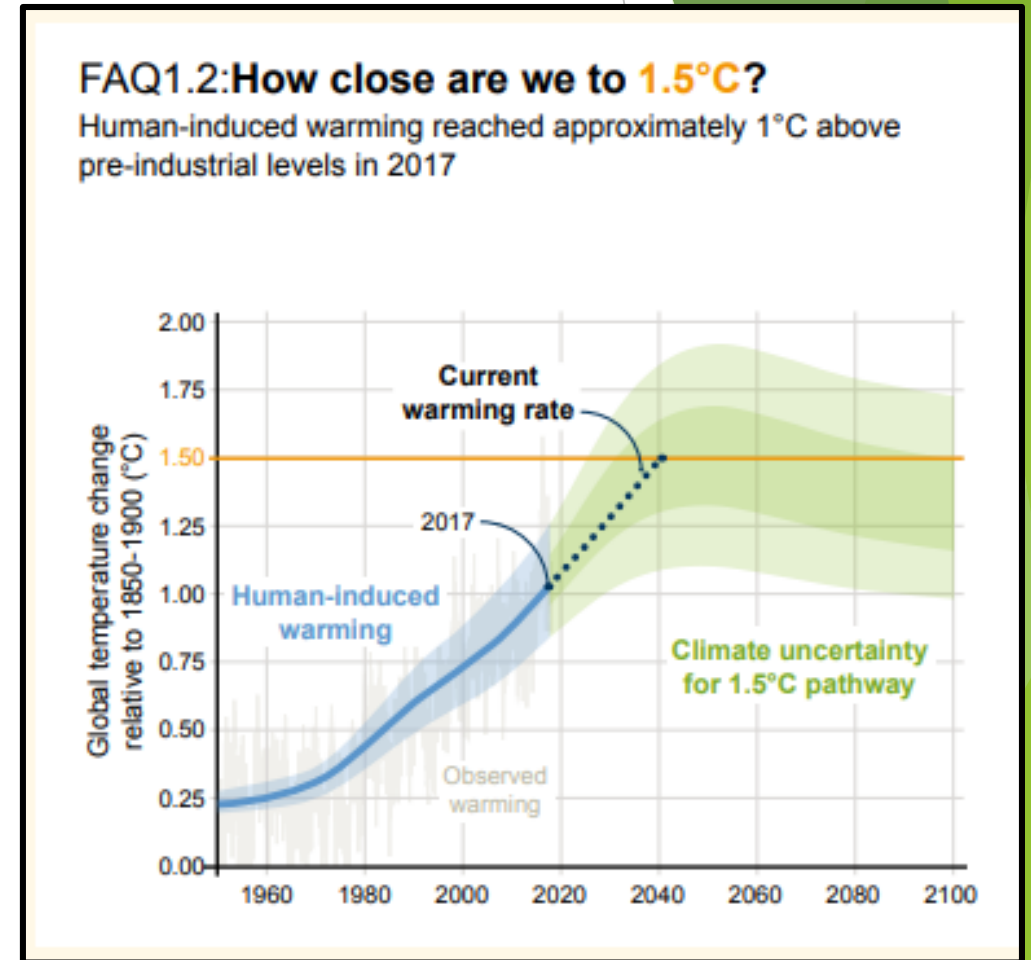
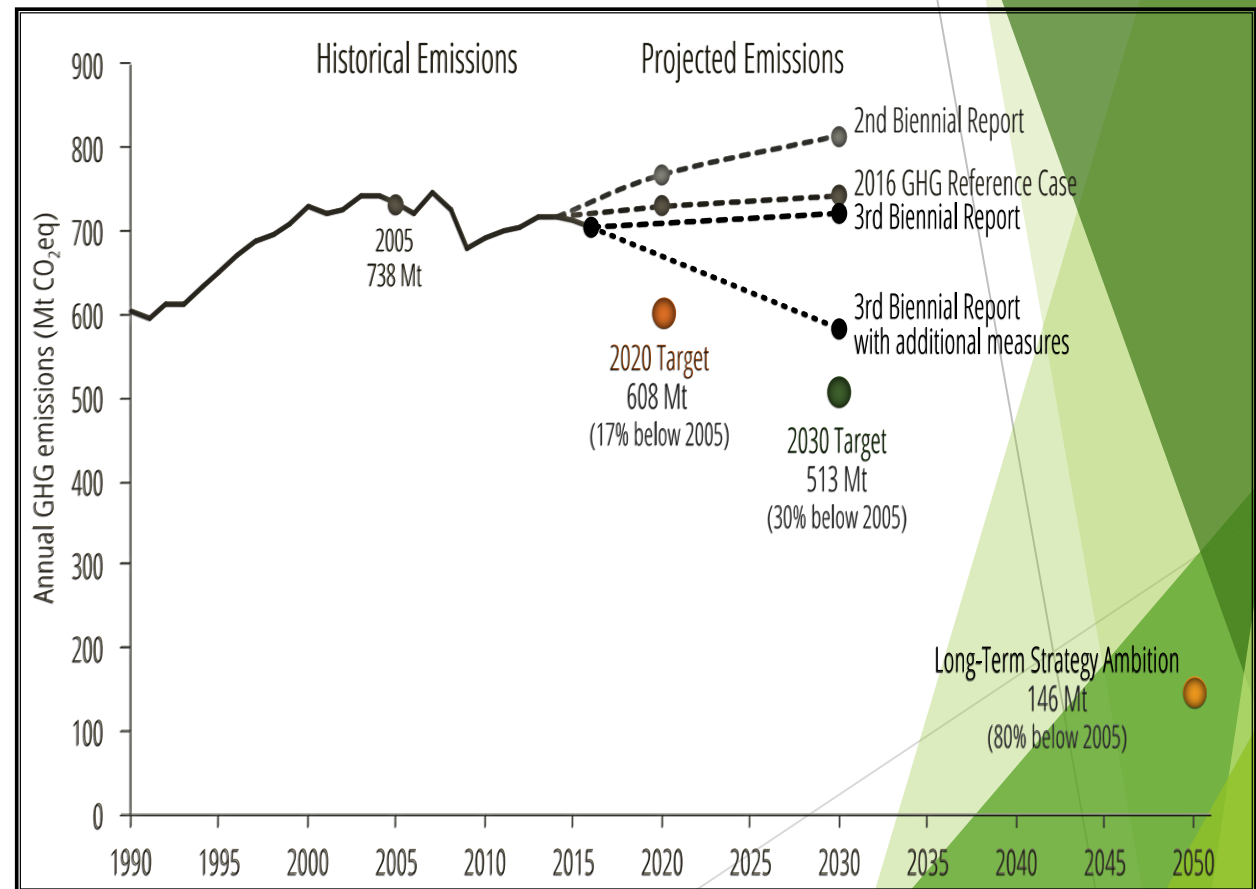


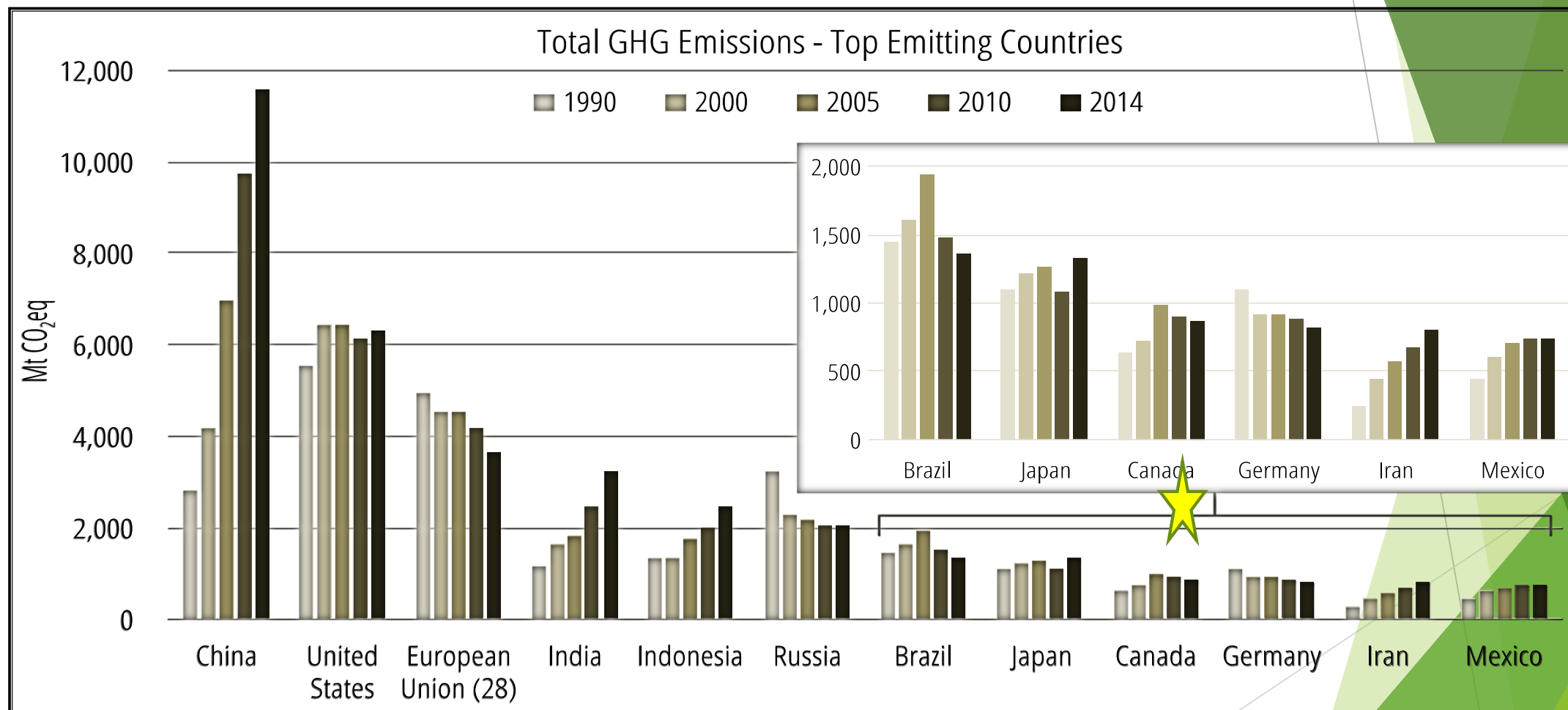
Figure: IPCC 2018 FAQ

Total Canadian GHG emissions, 1990-2016 with Successive Federal Projections to 2030

- ▶ Canada committed to reducing GHGs by 30% of 2005 levels by 2030
- ▶ Cutting by 191 Mt - from 704 Mt in 2016 to 513 MT in 2030
- ▶ **We are from our target**
- ▶ **And we need to do much more to limit warming at 1.5 °C**



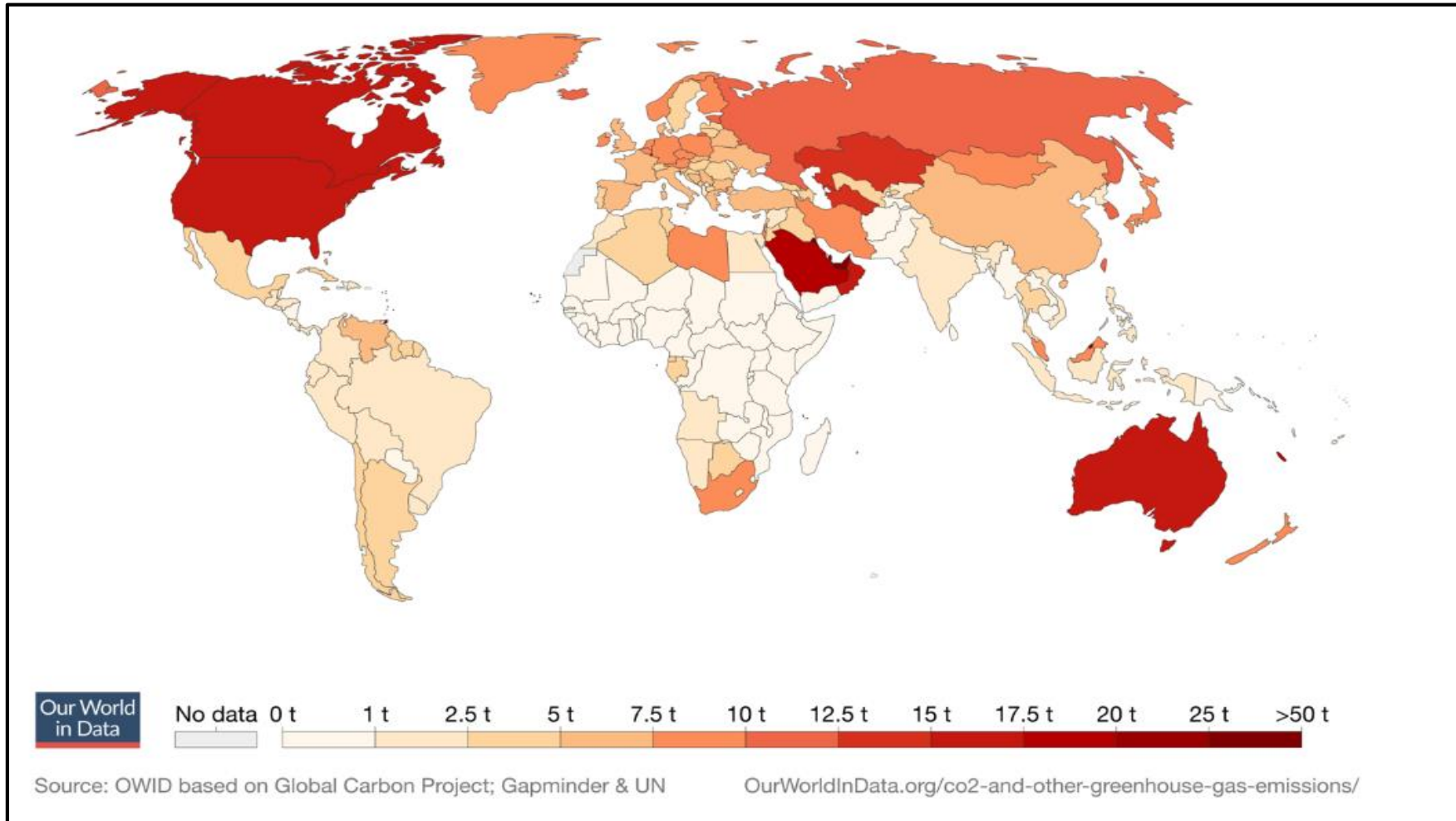
Top 12 GHG Emitters Globally - Selected Years



Data Source: World Resources Institute, Climate Watch, CAIT Climate Data Explorer.

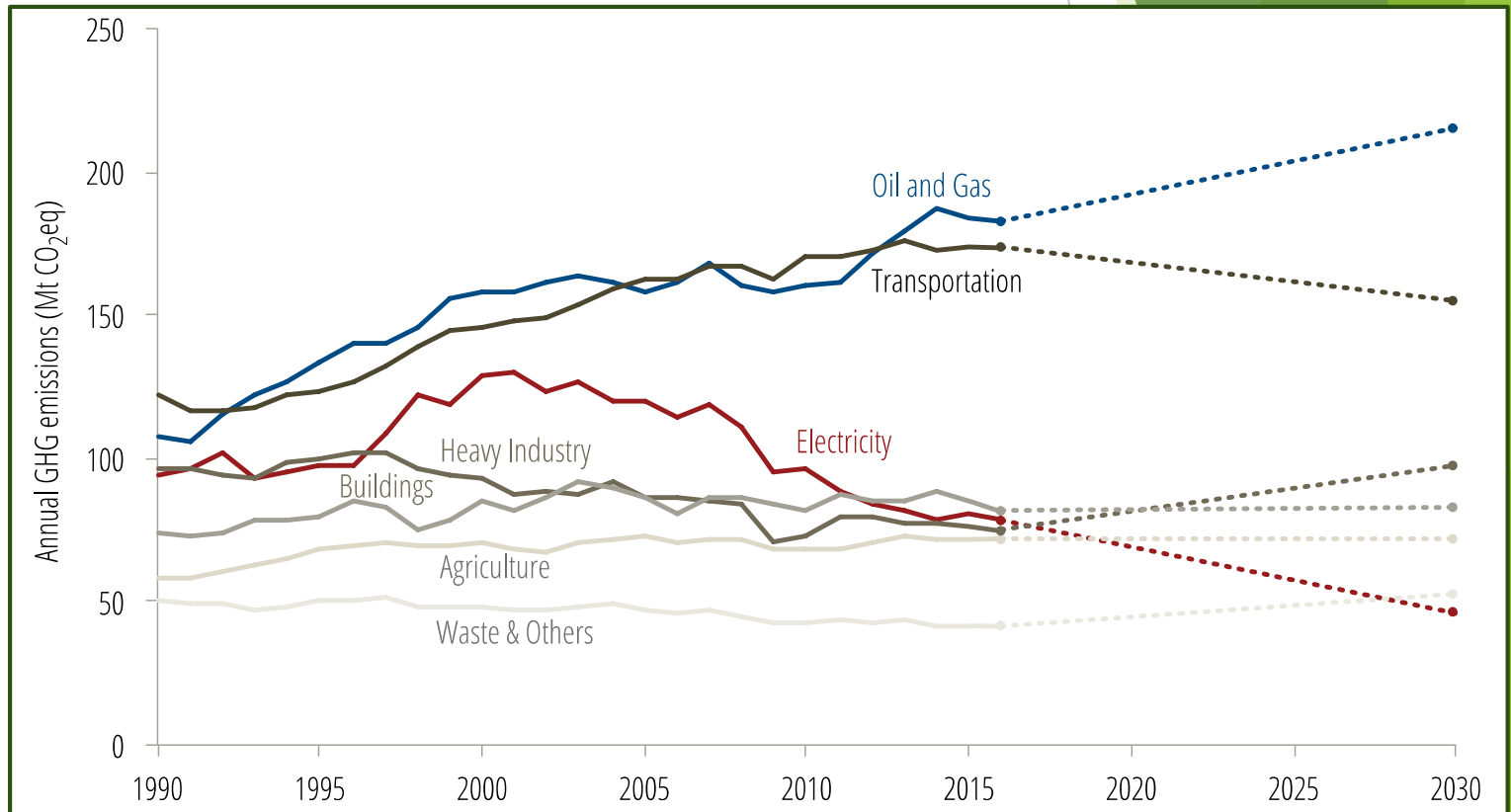
Prepared by Kim Perrotta, CAPE Executive Director - May 2019

Average CO₂ Emissions per Capita, 2016 (tonnes/year)



Canadian GHGs by Economic Sector, 1990-2016 with Federal Projections to 2030

- ▶ **Electricity Emissions** falling due to coal phase-out (red line)(11% today)
- ▶ **Transportation Sector** increasing (brown line) (25% today)
- ▶ **Oil & Gas Sector** increasing (blue line) (26% today)



Immediate Health Co-Benefits for Canadians from Climate Solutions - Improve Air Quality

- ▶ Chronic exposure to PM2.5 (air pollutant) from burning fossil fuels - responsible for **7,100 premature deaths & \$53.5 billion** in health-related costs per year.
- ▶ Air Pollution-Related Health benefits from:
 - ▶ public transit & cycling
 - ▶ electric vehicles
 - ▶ compact urban design
 - ▶ Renewable energy
 - ▶ Energy efficiency
 - ▶ Reduced extraction of oil and gas



Photo: Kim Perrotta, Solar Retrofit on Garage in Haliburton & Streetcar in Toronto

Immediate Health Co-Benefits for Canadians from Climate Solutions - Increase Physical Activity

- ▶ Chronic diseases costing Canada about **\$200 billion per year** in treatment and lost-time
- ▶ **Invest in public transit, cycling, walking & compact urban form to:**
 - ▶ Increase physical activity
 - ▶ Reduce rates of CVD, premature deaths & health care costs
 - ▶ Reduce GHGs
- ▶ Also increases social equity & access

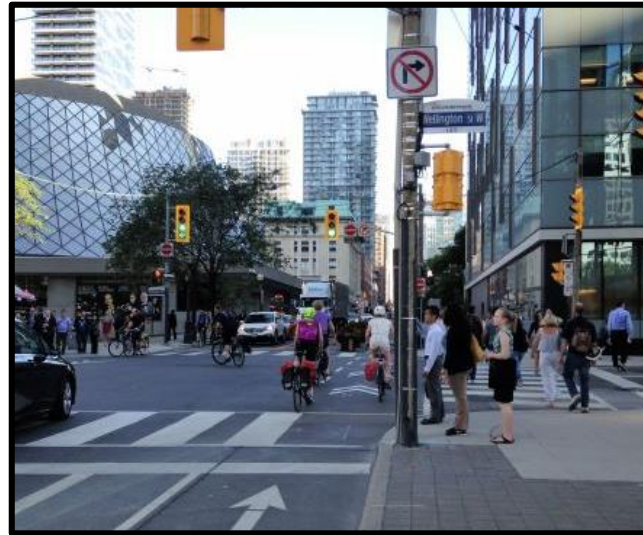


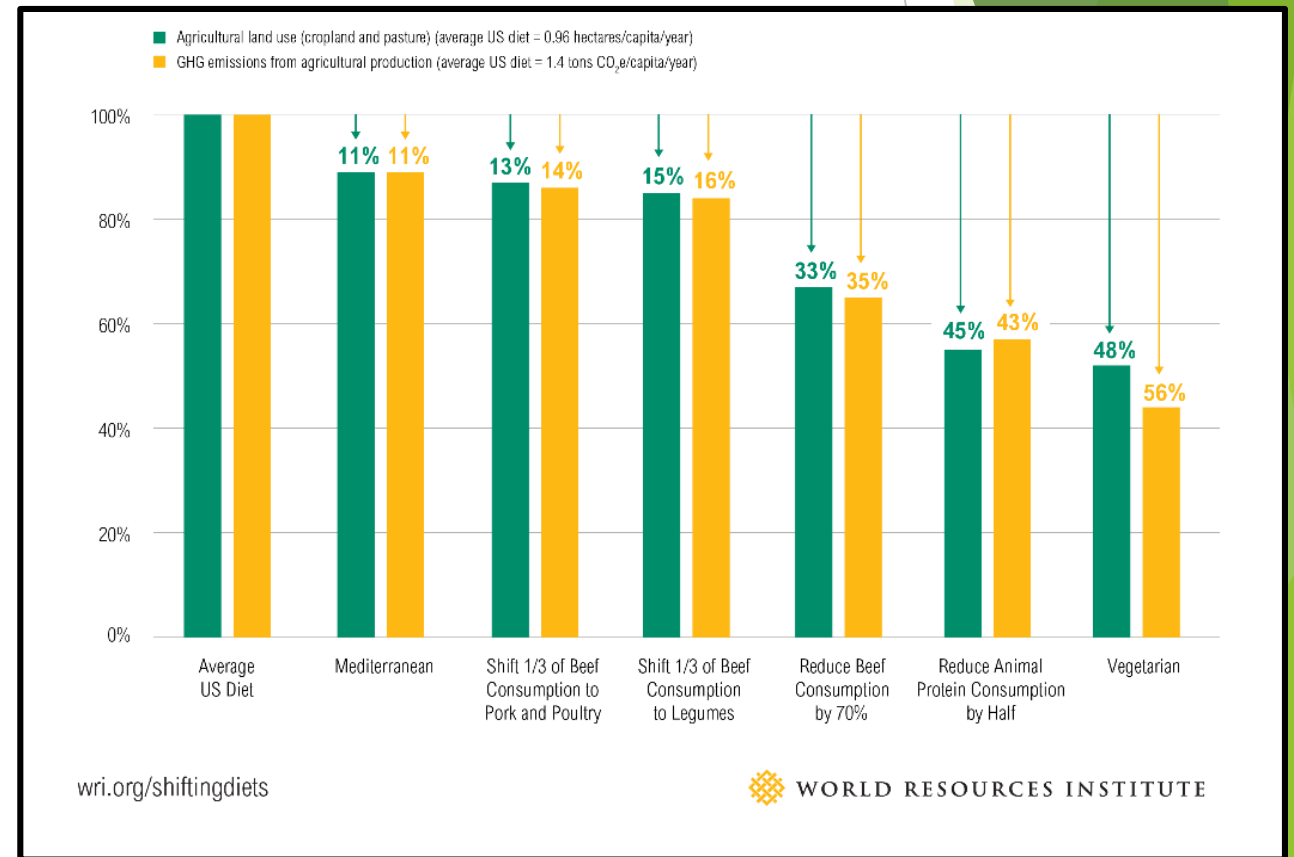
Photo: Kim Perrotta, Pedestrians, Toronto & Cyclists, Ottawa.

<https://cape.ca/campaigns/healthy-communities/healthy-sustainable-travel/active-travel-toolkit/>

Prepared by Kim Perrotta, CAPE Executive Director — May 2019

Immediate Health Co-Benefits for Canadians from Climate Solutions - Reduce Meat Consumption

- ▶ Chronic diseases costing Canada about **\$200 billion per year** in treatment and lost-time
- ▶ **Promote diets rich in plant-based proteins to:**
 - ▶ Reduce rates of obesity
 - ▶ Reduce rates of heart disease, diabetes, some cancers & health care costs
 - ▶ Reduce GHGs



Canadians Care about Climate Change

- ▶ 70% of Canadians believe that human activity is responsible for climate change (Abacus Data, 2018)
- ▶ 90% of Canadians believe that: “More intense heat waves, floods and wildfires make climate change harmful to health” (EcoAnalytics, 2018)
- ▶ Almost 90% of Canadians are willing to change their behaviour to help fight climate change (Ikea and Toronto-based Globe-Scan 2019)



Photo: Kim Perrotta, Ice Storm, Newmarket, Ontario

Call to Action on Climate Change and Health-Actions Needed (Highlights)

- ▶ **We are calling on each Federal Political Party to:**
 - ▶ Make meaningful and effective action on climate change a central theme of your party's platform as you prepare for this year's federal election;
 - ▶ **Develop effective and evidence-based climate action plans that demonstrate how Canada will achieve the emission reductions needed to do its fair share to keep global warming below 1.5°C;** (many sub-sets to this recommendation)
 - ▶ Develop and properly fund just transition policies and programs to support an equitable transition for the farmers and workers, and their communities, who will be impacted by the transition to a low carbon economy;
 - ▶ Make strong commitments to minimize the impact of climate change on the health of Canadians (several sub-sets to this recommendation)

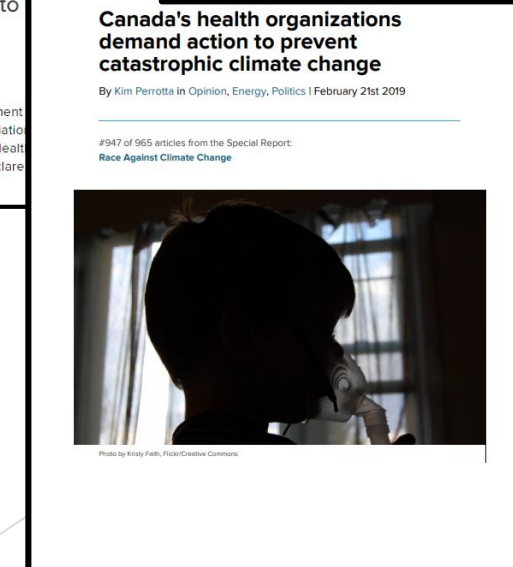
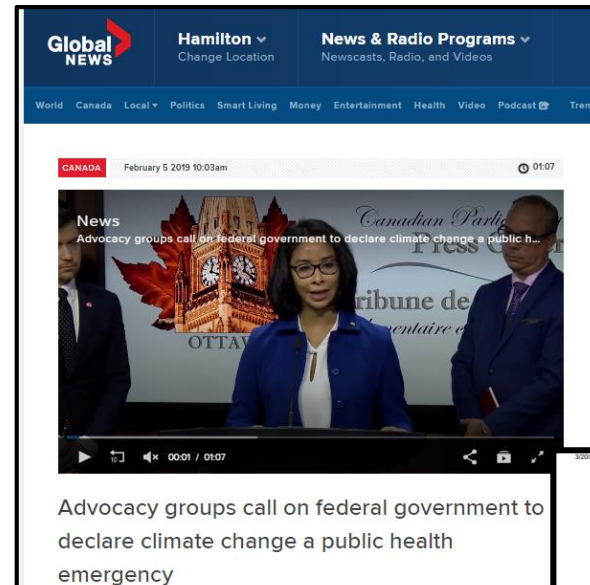
What Do we Plan to Do re: Call to Action?

Keep the issue in the media with op-eds & articles & press releases.

Use social media to reach larger audiences with the health message.

Meet with leaders of the political parties.

Broaden our partnerships.



What can you Do to Fight Climate Change?

- ▶ Endorse our Call to Action
<https://cape.ca/take-action/call-to-action/>
- ▶ Call your Member of Parliament (MP)
- ▶ Send him/her our Call to Action.
- ▶ Version française
ici: Appel à l'Action



Endorse Call to Action on Climate Change & Health

Take Action and stand up for health and the environment today! Sign below and add your voice to improve the health of people by protecting the planet.

FIRST NAME *

LAST NAME *

EMAIL *

☐ ADD ME TO YOUR MAILING LIST

☐ YES, I ACCEPT YOUR PRIVACY POLICY *

SIGN NOW

Climate Change is Harming Human Health

On February 5th, CAPE, in collaboration with the Canadian Medical Association (CMA), the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA), the Urban Public Health Network (UPHN), and the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA), released a **Call to Action on Climate Change and Health** and **Appel à l'Action concernant le Changement Climatique et la Santé**. We are calling on all national political parties in Canada to make a commitment to keep global warming below 1.5 degrees C and we need your help.

Climate change is already harming the mental and physical health of Canadians with air pollution, emergency evacuations, power shortages, food insecurity, insect-borne diseases, and with floods, tornados, hurricanes, wildfires and heatwaves that are more frequent and more intense.

Globally, climate change is having a devastating impact on human health. The World Health Organization estimates that heat waves, insect-borne diseases, malnutrition, and infectious diseases alone will claim 250,000 lives per year by 2030.

Support Students in “Fridays for Future Canada”



Fridays For Future Canada @FFFCanada · Mar 19

Replying to @CAPE_Doctors @courtghoward and 2 others

The youth have only just begun.
Canada needs your help.
Please circle the date #May3.
In January the #FridaysForFuture strikers determined we would sister strike on #March15 with the world & national strike #May3.
Join FB event to get notifications
facebook.com/events/7977313...

**Canada's National
#FridaysForFuture
#SchoolStrike
Friday, May 3, 2019**

Registration available details after April 10

Everyone around the world please join us.
It is an election year in Canada. Collectively we need to
raise consciousness of the urgency of this climate crisis.



Vote in the Federal Election

- ▶ We have 11 years to reduced Global Emissions by 45% to prevent catastrophic levels of Climate change.
- ▶ The Members of Parliament (MPs) elected in 2019 will be responsible for setting the Target required for Canada and creating the policies and programs needed to realize it.

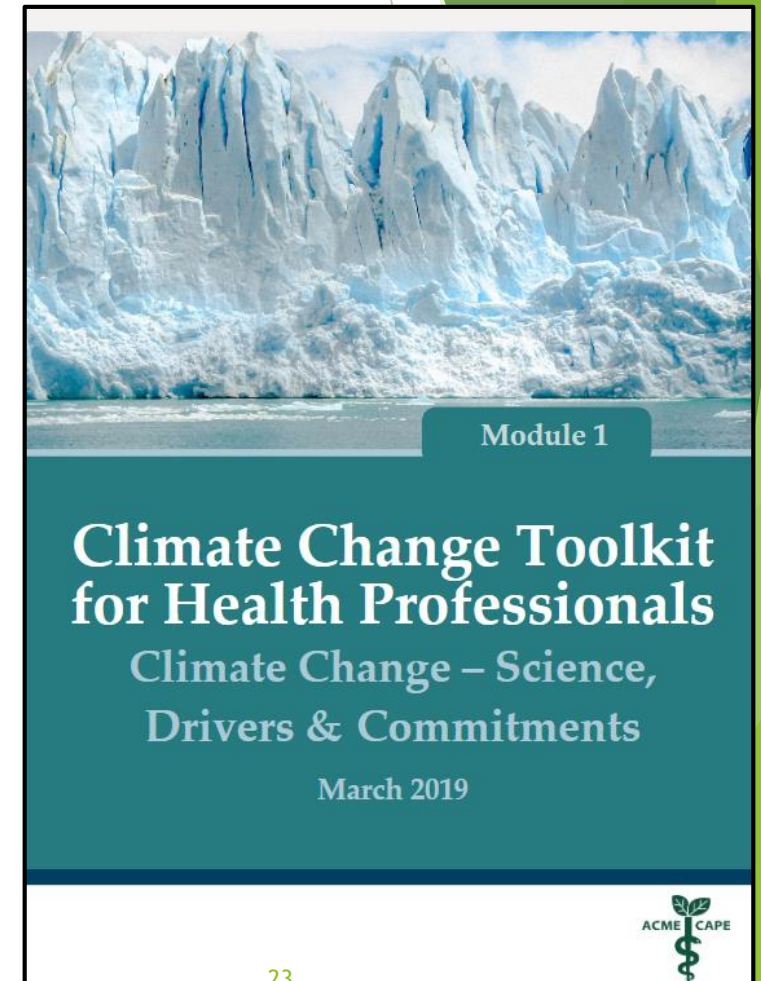


Engage in Local Climate Solutions

Engage through you work or in your community for the policies and programs needed to reduced GHGs or prepare for Climate Change.

New Climate Change Toolkit for Health Professionals - 8 Modules

- ▶ Health Impacts in Canada
- ▶ Health Co-Benefits of Climate Solutions
- ▶ Addressing Climate Change in Health Care Institutions
- ▶ Preparing for Climate Change in our Communities
- ▶ <https://cape.ca/campaigns/climate-health-policy/climate-change-toolkit-for-health-professionals/>
- ▶ <https://cape.ca/campaigns/climate-health-policy/boite-a-outils-sur-les-changements-climatiques-pour-les-professionnels-de-la-sante/>





[Website: cape.ca](http://cape.ca)

[Twitter: @CAPE_Doctors](https://twitter.com/CAPE_Doctors)

[Facebook: capedoctors](https://facebook.com/capedoctors)

[Instagram: cape_doctors](https://instagram.com/cape_doctors)

kim@cape.ca