

2025-3 Develop a Comprehensive Provincial Climate Plan

Moved by: Sustainable Building Manitoba

This is a new resolution.

The Government of Manitoba should develop, resource and legislate a science-aligned, comprehensive climate plan under the authority of *The Climate and Green Plan Implementation Act*, with a clear pathway to achieving a net-zero economy by 2050. This plan must:

- Include binding interim emissions reduction targets (e.g., for 2025, 2030, and 2040) aligned with climate science and Canada's international commitments, recognizing the role of cumulative emissions
- Address both climate mitigation and adaptation, including emergency preparedness and resilience planning for climate impacts such as extreme heat, flooding, drought, wildfire, and supply chain disruption
- Include sector-specific strategies to reduce emissions from:
 - Buildings (deep retrofits, net-zero-ready new construction, electrification)
 - Transportation (public transit, active transportation, fleet electrification, and sustainable freight)
 - Agriculture (methane and nitrous oxide reduction, regenerative practices, soil health, and land use)
 - Industry (fuel switching, efficiency improvements, and low-carbon innovation)
 - Waste (methane capture, diversion strategies, and circular economy initiatives)
- Include an updated green building policy for all provincially owned and funded buildings, with lifecycle costing, energy and emissions performance requirements, and operational transparency
- Accelerate adoption of higher tiers in the National Building Code and National Energy Code for Buildings
- Adopt a modern Green Building Policy for all provincial buildings

- Address the gaps left by the 2024 Affordable Energy Strategy by developing integrated policies on public and active transportation, building electrification, land use planning, waste, and agriculture that align with Manitoba's climate and affordability goals
- Establish mechanisms for transparent public reporting, independent oversight, and ongoing review to ensure accountability and continuous improvement
- Embed equity, affordability, Indigenous self-determination, and economic opportunity throughout the plan

Because: Manitoba currently lacks a legislated, science-based climate plan. While *The Climate and Green Plan Implementation Act* provides a foundation, it has not resulted in a comprehensive, enforceable roadmap for reducing emissions, preparing for climate impacts, or transitioning to a net-zero economy.

Because: Emissions are rising across multiple sectors. Without a coordinated plan, Manitoba risks locking in high-emission infrastructure, missing out on federal funding, and increasing long-term economic and social costs.

Because: Climate action cannot wait. Emissions reductions are cumulative—every tonne avoided now matters more than one avoided later. Delay increases the risk of overshooting global temperature limits, while early action reduces costs, builds resilience, and supports public trust.

Because: Interim targets are essential. A 2050 net-zero target alone is not enough without short- and medium-term goals to guide action and investment. A science-based plan must include milestones, timelines, and mechanisms for regular adjustment.

Because: Adaptation and emergency preparedness are equally critical. Manitoba communities are already experiencing the effects of climate change, from smoke-filled summers to flooding, extreme cold, and disrupted infrastructure. A robust climate plan must build resilience across sectors.

Because: Manitoba Hydro's Integrated Resource Plan is an important tool for planning electricity supply and demand—but it cannot address emissions from sectors like agriculture, landfill

management, or private vehicle use. A whole-of-government climate plan is needed to align energy, land use, transportation, and emissions strategies.

Because: The Province is investing in regional and municipal climate planning, but local governments cannot address every source of emissions or manage cross-cutting systems like building codes, provincial infrastructure, or utility regulation. Many municipal climate plans, including Winnipeg's, are still years away. A coordinated provincial framework is needed to connect local efforts, fill jurisdictional gaps, and ensure consistency across Manitoba.

Because: Bold climate action supports long-term economic competitiveness. Clear policies and targets attract investment, lower operational costs, and create jobs in growing sectors like construction, clean technology, transit, energy advising, and regenerative agriculture. A strong plan will also help identify where Manitoba's workforce needs to grow or adapt—ensuring training, education, and recruitment strategies are aligned with the net-zero economy by 2050 target.

Because: A climate plan must guide not only specific emissions-reduction programs, but also broader policy decisions across government. Applying a climate lens to infrastructure, housing, land use, procurement, and public investments ensures that today's decisions support long-term sustainability and avoid locking in future emissions and costs.

Because: A climate plan is also a public health strategy. Poor housing quality, car dependency, and extreme weather all contribute to chronic disease, stress, and health inequities. A plan that improves indoor air quality, promotes mobility options, and protects against climate extremes improves health outcomes and reduces long-term health care costs that the Province has to pay.

Because: Climate policy can reduce household costs and increase affordability. Investments in energy efficiency, transit, and building upgrades reduce utility bills, fuel costs, and maintenance burdens—especially for low-income, rural, and Indigenous communities.

Because: Indigenous Peoples must be partners in shaping Manitoba's climate future. A credible plan must honour Indigenous self-determination, recognize traditional knowledge, and support community-led resilience and low-carbon development strategies.

Because: This resolution supports the Manitoba Road Map by:

- *Ending Poverty:* through energy affordability, better housing, and access to different modes of transportation
- *Local & Fair Economies:* by creating jobs in climate-resilient industries
- *Tackling Climate Change:* by reducing emissions, preparing for impacts and helping to meet the provincial net-zero targets
- *Directing Our Own Future:* by creating a Made-in-Manitoba strategy rooted in science, equity, and long-term wellbeing while being prepared for emergency scenarios

How this Resolution will be Advanced:

Sustainable Building Manitoba, Manitoba's Climate Action Team and the Manitoba Eco Network along with CCEDNET will collaborate with allied organizations, Indigenous partners, municipalities, climate scientists, community leaders, and sector experts to support the development of a credible, accountable, and inclusive climate plan. We will work to ensure the plan reflects Manitoba's values, responsibilities, and opportunities in the global transition to a net-zero future.