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# A Comprehensive Approach to Addressing Climate Change

The pricing of carbon pollution is a key pillar of Canada's Plan for Climate Action and Clean Growth. BC has long led the way on this issue.

However, while carbon pollution pricing is important, and the focus of much media attention, it is only one tool in any thoughtful approach to addressing climate change.

Our government's Plan for Climate Action - developed with provinces, territories and Indigenous people is designed to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions <u>and</u> grow the economy.

Here's my "Top Six List" of climate actions contained in this strategy (in addition to carbon pricing) on which work is actively underway:

## 1) Phasing out traditional coal-fired electricity by 2030

Coal is one of the most GHG intensive means of generating electricity. About 40% of the world's electricity comes from burning coal - and 10% of Canada's electricity. It is a significant contributor to climate change and a major source of air pollution that harms the health of millions of people every year.

# 2) Making our buildings more energy efficient

Buildings produce 12% of our national emissions, mostly for heating. It's now feasible to design "net-zero energy" buildings. The Government of Canada is working with provinces and territories to develop an increasingly stringent model building code that will be introduced starting in 2020 with the goal that provinces and territories adopt a "net zero" code by 2030.

In 2030, 75% of Canada's buildings will be structures standing today. We're developing a retrofit code by 2022 to enhance efficiency for existing buildings.

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**3) Investing in clean transportation** Transportation represents 23% of Canada's GHG emissions. By promoting low carbon fuels like biogas and hydrogen and alternatives like electricity through infrastructure deployment, the introduction of a Low Carbon Fuel Standard and other measures, we will achieve the equivalent of taking 7 million vehicles off the road by 2030. And we're investing \$25 billion to upgrade our public transit systems across the country over the next decade.

## 4) Reducing Methane Emissions from the Oil and Gas Sector

New regulations will reduce methane emissions from oil and gas operations by 40-45% by 2025 - the equivalent of taking 5 million passenger vehicles off the road

#### 5) Enhancing carbon storage

Emissions from the forestry and agriculture industries and from municipal waste account for about 11% of Canada's total. Agricultural soils and forests are however also "carbon sinks" that can absorb and store carbon. The Government of Canada will provide support for land-use and conservation measures - including planting more trees, perennial and permanent cover crops and zero-till farming.

## 6) Investing in clean technology

Our economic future lies in successfully transitioning towards a lower carbon world. That makes the development and commercialization of advanced energy technologies and other technologies that reduce environmental footprint one of the largest business opportunities of the next several decades.

Supporting the development and deployment of clean technology can grow our economy, create good jobs and help Canadian businesses be at the forefront of the clean technology revolution.

Our government is making key investments in cleantech – primarily in areas of commercialization and scale up. This is critically important for all of Canada but most particularly for BC which possesses Canada's largest clean technology sector.

By thoughtfully investing now, by supporting our workers, entrepreneurs and scientists, Canada can be an innovator, create jobs today and build a strong economy for future generations.

Prime Minister Wilfred Laurier once said, "It is often the mistake of nations that they do not apprehend fully the necessities of the situation. They fail in

As we stand at the dawn of the cleangrowth century, Canada will not only be bold – we intend to lead.

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