

ONTARIO CLIMATE EMERGENCY CAMPAIGN ACTION PLAN

LIBERAL PARTY OF ONTARIO RESPONSE

1. Set binding climate targets based on science and justice consistent with global efforts to limit planetary warming to 1.5C. Set binding greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets relative to 2005 levels of 30% by 2025; 60% by 2030; and 100% by 2040. Establish rolling 5-year carbon budgets that decline over time towards zero emissions by 2040 or sooner. Review and update targets regularly as climate science evolves. Track and report progress on these actions every year.

PARTIALLY SUPPORT

The Ontario Liberal Party has a costed, modelled and achievable plan to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 50% below 2005 levels by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. Our government will ensure transparency and accountability with respect to our progress, through an independent Environmental Commissioner. We will take the politics out of climate action by creating an all-party Cabinet committee to find new ways to tackle carbon pollution. We will mandate climate risk reporting and disclosures for public companies.

2. Prioritize and respect Indigenous sovereignty and autonomy. Build a new relationship between the Province of Ontario and Indigenous peoples premised on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). Recognize and respect Indigenous peoples' jurisdiction and right to free, prior, and informed consent within their territories. Collaborate in true partnership with Indigenous peoples on shared climate priorities, recognizing that spiritual value of the land is reflected in Indigenous culture with a commitment to respecting Mother Earth.

FULLY SUPPORT

The Ontario Liberal Party believes that we must adhere to UNDRIP and must do so in a proactive manner. We'll bring back a stand-alone minister focused on Indigenous reconciliation and honour the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the duty to consult. We recognize the importance of responding to the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. We believe that having a provincial action plan and annual progress reports developed in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples in Ontario will be critical to the success of our reconciliation efforts. We'll protect and restore Ontario's rivers, wetlands and

watersheds in collaboration with Indigenous communities, including Moose Cree First Nation and Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug. The Ontario Liberal caucus in the provincial legislature has been supportive and voted for Bill 76: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, 2019. An Ontario Liberal government will act expeditiously on passing and implementing this Bill in collaboration with representatives of the Indigenous communities and other key stakeholders inside and outside of the legislature.

3. Invest in a thriving, regenerative, zero emissions economy. Invest 2% of Ontario's GDP to advance the zero emissions, decarbonized, renewable economy and create many thousands of decent, secure, sustainable jobs across multiple sectors. Create new economic and public institutions, diverting monies from destructive fossil fuels, and spend what it takes to immediately reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Do so recognizing that the cost of inaction will massively outweigh the cost of immediate urgent climate action. Regulate and support governmental holdings to rapidly divest from fossil fuel exposure, and businesses to decarbonize while promoting green manufacturing.

PARTIALLY SUPPORT

Tackling the climate emergency can create good, well-paying jobs – but only if Ontario makes smart, strategic investments. We'll do just that – investing \$9 billion over the next four years into a clean economy plan. Doing so will create 25,000 green jobs which we'll prepare people for through no-cost access to new apprenticeships, training and skills building programs. We'll also apply a climate equity lens, ensuring every community is supported through and included in our transition to a cleaner, greener province and economy. We'll require high emitting industries, which create up to 30% of Ontario's total carbon pollution, to cut their emissions further by strengthening the Emissions Performance Standards in line with our 2030 target. We'll reinvest and match every dollar generated through a strengthened industrial carbon pricing plan into grants, tax credits, and loan guarantees to bring down emissions, advance cleantech, and create jobs. This includes creating 25,000 new green jobs and kick-starting a made-in-Ontario Green Jobs Fund. The popularity of electric vehicles is a huge opportunity for Ontario to cut emissions, attract investment and boost our auto sector. Our plan will make Ontario a leader in electric vehicle production – leveraging our automotive supply chain with the United States to ensure Ontario's EV manufacturing sector is globally competitive. We'll harness the power of hydrogen to help businesses get to net-zero and break into new and competitive markets. Through the Green Jobs Fund, we'll support green hydrogen generation, transportation and storage across the province, including refueling stations along Highway 401.

4. End all fossil fuel subsidies immediately and rapidly wind down all fossil fuel use. Phase out gas-fired electricity by 2030. Redirect funding to energy efficiency and fully renewable low carbon energy sources. End all fossil fuel subsidies, tax and financial incentives immediately. Ensure that all high emitting industries and sectors that create or profit from fossil fuel pollution pay their fair share of the costs of the resulting climate damage. Place an immediate moratorium on any further investment in nuclear energy to invest instead in new renewable energy.

PARTIALLY SUPPORT

We'll transition as quickly as possible to a fully clean energy supply while maintaining reliability and affordability, including by banning new natural gas plants and phasing out our reliance on gas for baseload power. We'll also eliminate set-up connection fees for rooftop solar charging panels and bidirectional electric vehicle charging. We'll support projects with Indigenous and Northern communities that reduce reliance on diesel and drive electrification in the remote north – including by supporting the completion of the Wataynikaneyap Transmission Project. We'll require high emitting industries, which create up to 30% of Ontario's total carbon pollution, to cut their emissions further by strengthening the Emissions Performance Standards in line with our 2030 target.

5. Prioritize public health as the climate crisis is our single greatest health crisis. Recognize that climate change is the single greatest health threat of this century and taking climate action is our greatest health opportunity. Invest in sustainable, equitable, and accessible healthcare. Incorporate Health in All Policies, One Health tenets, and Wellbeing Economy indicators into all future policy decisions, moving beyond economic evaluations and GDP-based measures.

FULLY SUPPORT

Economic growth is a critical benchmark of Ontario's success, but it shouldn't be the only metric of success. Without more sophisticated tools in place, we can't know if the gains we see in GDP and productivity are shared by all Ontarians or leaving most of them further behind. We'll adopt a quality of life framework to keep track of what counts. This framework will be consistent with the OECD Better Life Initiative and evaluate key indicators like health and well-being. We also recognize that the climate crisis is an existential threat to humanity. The catastrophic natural disasters that we continue to observe are getting more frequent and devastating. It will also accelerate the transmission and the spread of various diseases among humans, animals, and trees. Climate emergency may disrupt our food supply chain further marginalizing people from low-income households. Therefore, we will act decisively to protect our supply chain in

the face of natural adversity. We'll strengthen our emergency preparedness strategies and review them periodically. We'll also work with municipalities, real estate and insurance leaders to inform people on how they can take action about energy efficiency and flooding or other climate risks for their homes and buildings.

6. Accelerate the transition to zero emission buildings. Establish and implement stringent net-zero emissions building codes on all new builds by 2025 including elimination of fossil fuel based heating, while incentivizing deep retrofits for existing buildings to achieve net-zero emissions and inclusive affordable housing with low energy costs. Ban new gas connections by the end of 2023. Create a Crown Corporation to mobilize the workforce for the sustainable employment opportunities that will be generated.

PARTIALLY SUPPORT

We need to retrofit our homes and buildings to address air pollution and climate change. For instance, heating contributes about 20% of Ontario's total emissions – and most homes are not prepared for more frequent flooding. Retrofits also lower families' energy bills. We'll provide 100,000 easy to access grants of up to \$3,000 each year for people and businesses to make high-performance energy and climate-resiliency retrofits, including new windows, insulation, heat pumps and flood protection, in addition to providing interest-free loans for deeper retrofits. We'll also retrofit schools, hospitals, colleges, universities, social housing and other public sector buildings to make them energy efficient and climate resilient. We'll update the Ontario Building Code so all new buildings and renovations are built to leading energy-efficiency and climate resiliency standards by 2025. Committed to leading by example, we'll also make the Ontario government net zero by 2030 – swiftly reducing emissions from public service infrastructure and procurement, including leveraging made-in-Ontario clean technologies and issuing more green bonds. Despite the benefits that electric vehicles create for our air, climate, and Ontario's economy, the Ford Conservatives canceled funding for home charging stations, ripped out charging stations that had already been installed, and removed charging station rough-ins from Ontario's building code – all of which we'll reverse. We'll also rapidly expand the availability of vehicle charging stations in buildings, parking lots, city streets, and all OnRoute and GO stations.

7. Accelerate the transition to zero emissions transportation and ensure ongoing sustainable community development. Invest in affordable, accessible, and convenient zero-emissions public transit connecting and interconnecting communities, including northern communities. Reallocate infrastructure funds from unnecessary highway expansion including cancellation of Highway 413 and the Bradford Bypass to sustainable public

transit and active transportation. Mandate all new vehicle sales to be zero emissions by 2030. Prevent urban sprawl through sustainable urban development and intensification, while promoting healthy walkable, cycling-friendly communities with ample green infrastructure.

FULLY SUPPORT

We are going to cut public transit fares to \$1.00 per ride and \$40 for monthly passes until January 2024. This fare rate will be applied to all public transit in Ontario – including municipal, GO and Ontario Northland transit, with the province, fully replacing transit systems' lost revenue. This measure will get an estimated 400,000 car trips off the road each day on top of making transit trips more affordable. We'll work to integrate fares between transit services within the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, ensuring everyone pays less than they do today. We will invest an additional \$375 million in annual transit operating funding – supporting more routes, extended hours of service, improved accessibility and more intercity connections.

Frequent, accessible transit can transform neighborhoods and empower people to choose transit. We'll build dozens of new transit projects across the province – funding lines and stations that will improve people's lives and make it easier to use transit. We'll help people replace polluting cars and trucks with electric or zero-emission ones by introducing an up to \$8,000 rebate, in addition to the existing \$5,000 federal rebate, on the purchase or lease of a non-luxury electric vehicle (up to \$65,000 retail price) and \$1,500 for charging equipment.

We'll mandate that at least 60% of all new passenger vehicles sold in Ontario are zero-emission by 2030 and 100% by 2035. We'll work with industry and partners to create zero-emission vehicle mandates for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles, like shipping trucks, and immediately require that the public sector only buy zero-emission vehicles and equipment. We'll also work with businesses to promote the use of sustainable alternative fuels in shipping, trucking, and aviation, which can reduce carbon pollution by more than 90%. We'll continue electrifying all GO trains, public transit and school buses. We'll stop Highway 413. We'll also pause any further work on the proposed Bradford Bypass until a new environmental assessment is done – since the current assessment hasn't been updated since 1997. If this assessment fails to meet environmental and community standards, we'll stop the Bradford Bypass just like Highway 413. To complement our electric vehicle rebates, we will provide a 30% rebate for new electric bikes, mopeds or motorcycles up to \$500. We'll provide communities with \$100 million annually to build separated bike lanes and cycling trails, expand bike-sharing and rental services, and secure bike parking.

8. Urgently protect natural biodiversity. Support and invest in Indigenous-led conservation initiatives. Restore natural ecosystems functions, preserve biodiversity, and increase carbon sequestration, including important carbon

sinks such as the Greenbelt, the boreal forests of northern Ontario, and the James Bay lowlands, thereby improving human and ecosystem resilience to climate impacts. Protection must include at least 30% by 2030 of forests, wetlands, greenspaces and fresh water including our Great Lakes and other sources of drinking water. Restore powers and funding to Conservation Authorities.

FULLY SUPPORT

An Ontario Liberal government will act decisively to protect the natural biodiversity of Ontario. We will scrap Minister's Zoning Orders that have been used by the Ford government to bypass community consultations and pave over sensitive environmental areas such as wetlands shrinking biodiversity. Indigenous communities have traditionally been the stewards of the lands and waters of Ontario. They have the hereditary connections, lived experiences, and wisdom with respect to the soil, water, trees, and animals of this province. An Ontario Liberal government will partner with Indigenous leaders, elders, and community members in the spirit of reconciliation and in good faith to mitigate the climate crisis. We will invest in and support Indigenous-led conservation initiatives. Natural carbon sinks will be critical to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, mitigating the climate crisis and protecting biodiversity. Preserving their sanctity will be of paramount importance now and in the future. Hence, we will protect natural areas such as the boreal forests of northern Ontario and the James Bay lowlands. We will reverse the Ford Conservatives' regressive changes and strengthen the Conservation Authorities so that they can continue and expand their programs and initiatives related to protecting green spaces, bodies of water, biodiversity, and species at risk. We'll also designate 30% of our land as protected areas by 2030 – up from 10% – and expand the size and number of provincial parks, including expanding Kawartha Highlands Provincial Park.

9. Invest in local, organic, regenerative agriculture and food systems. Incentivize carbon storage in soil, restore biodiversity, and ensure food sovereignty and food security across the province. Increase consumption of plant-based, locally-sourced foods and implement reductions in food waste. Support farmers in shifting industrial animal-based operations to more regenerative plant-based agriculture. Support Indigenous communities wishing to maintain traditional food systems and enhance their food security.

FULLY SUPPORT

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the need for a robust local food supply chain. Locally-grown food can help us reduce our carbon footprint by limiting the need for

hauling food from distant locations. Therefore, an Ontario Liberal government will be supportive of organic, local, regenerative agriculture and food system. Not only that we will protect our farmlands by promoting infill developments but also encourage innovative forms of local farming including techniques that are suitable for the urban environment (such as vertical farming). Indigenous people are well suited to be strong partners of the government in this regard. We will support Indigenous community members to carry on their traditional food systems and help them to share their lived experience, knowledge and wisdom with the broader community. We'll adopt an innovative approach towards farming and its carbon footprint. Our government will work with farmers and fuel producers to harness organic waste for renewable natural gas and reduce methane emissions. We'll develop a made-for-rural climate action plan that recognizes the unique challenges of reducing greenhouse gases in remote settings and the agriculture sector – which will include working with federal partners to strengthen carbon tax rebates to farmers. We'll also bring more lands under the Greenbelt's protection in close collaboration with local and Indigenous communities and farmers. We'll divert and recycle 60% of waste from landfills by 2030 and 85% by 2050. We'll update ineffective waste management and recycling in industrial and commercial sectors and hold polluters accountable for their waste. We'll also expand the list of products that can be recycled in Blue Bins and implement a landfill ban for food and organic waste – requiring Green Bin programs to work with farmers and fuel producers to harness organic waste for renewable natural gas and reduce methane emissions.

10. Institute a broad public education campaign, as we all have the right to know what's at stake. Tell the truth about the climate and biodiversity crises and their critical impacts on human survival, in order to educate and mobilize broad community-based and societal action. Recognize climate change as the single greatest threat to human health of our time. Highlight the multiple co-benefits and massive opportunities that will result from taking climate action, including health and economic benefits, as well as employment opportunities.

FULLY SUPPORT

We will indeed ensure that our students of all ages are being educated on climate science. Ontario's youth have the potential to be climate action leaders and stewards of the environment. Our government will work with teachers, administrators, parents and other stakeholders to make sure that students develop critical thinking skills so that they can't be misled by misinformation and disinformation. We will also help them acquire the necessary technical and theoretical skills (particularly at post-secondary institutions) that they need to be able to develop innovative, low-cost solutions that can help us tackle and mitigate damaging impacts of climate change, including through no-cost access to new apprenticeships, training and skills building programs.

11. Reinstate an independent office of the Environmental Commissioner. Empower and adequately fund the Environmental Commissioner on an ongoing basis to independently oversee the implementation of the essential environmental actions to be taken.

FULLY SUPPORT

We will be transparent in our progress and accountable for our results through an independent Environmental Commissioner. We'll take the politics out of climate action by creating an all-party Cabinet committee to find new ways to tackle carbon pollution.

12. Leave no one behind. As we make the massive and urgent transformations critically needed to secure our shared future, ensure a just transition for Indigenous, resource-dependent, remote, and marginalized communities, low income families, fossil fuel workers, and all others disproportionately affected by the necessary shift to a low carbon economy. Prepare our communities for the impacts of the climate crisis to minimize human suffering and infrastructure damage. Address environmental racism and intergenerational justice by supporting those most vulnerable to climate change impacts including future generations. Recognize that our only way forward is to act together urgently, collectively, massively to safeguard the present and secure the future for ourselves, our children, and for generations yet to come.

FULLY SUPPORT

The world economy is going green. Rather than adapt and lead Ontario into a new chapter, the Ford Conservatives resisted and stonewalled instead of getting Ontario's economy ready to compete in the global green marketplace. Ontario Liberals will reinvest every dollar from a strengthened industrial carbon pricing plan to bring down emissions, advance cleantech and create jobs. This includes creating 25,000 new green jobs and kick-starting a made-in-Ontario Green Jobs Fund.