

Achieving net-zero: how a climate accountability law will get us there

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The 5 pillars of a Canadian climate accountability framework

1	LONG-TERM TARGETS
2	FIVE-YEAR CARBON BUDGETS
3	FIVE-YEAR IMPACT REPORTS
4	PLANNING & REPORTING
5	ARM'S LENGTH EXPERT COMMITTEE

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1 LONG-TERM TARGETS

GHG reduction targets for 2050 & 2030. Ambitious & fair Canadian contribution to 1.5 C world.



2030 (interim) and 2050 (long-term)



2030 – stronger than current 30% below 2005.
2050 – net zero.



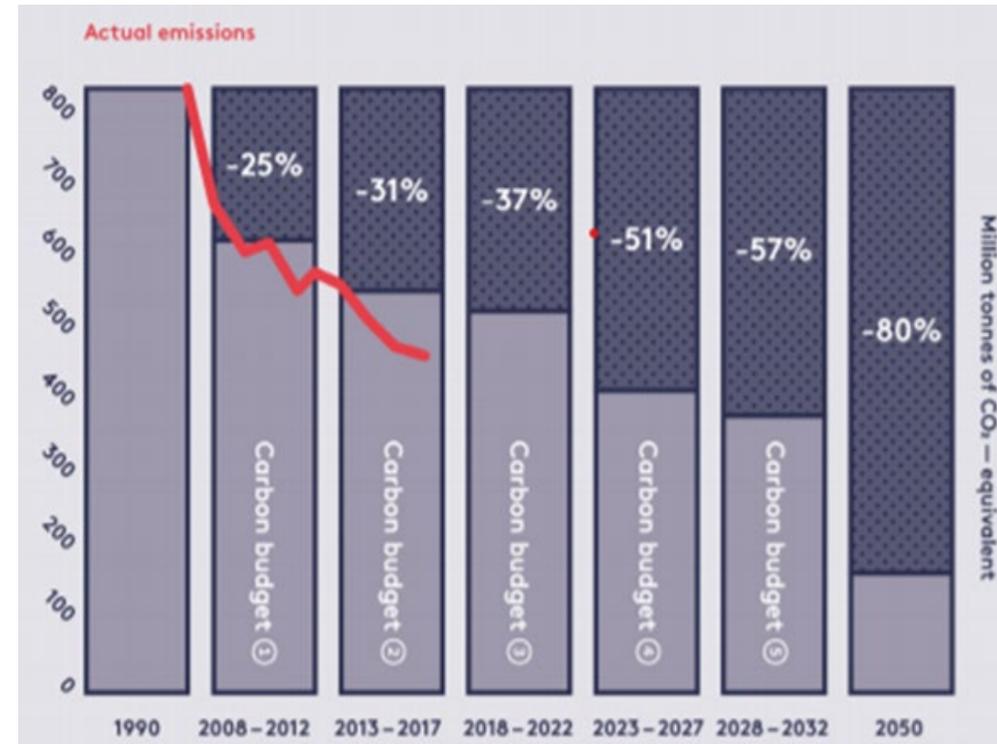
Targets must be binding on government: *It is the duty of the [Minister(s)] to ensure that the net carbon account for Canada for the year 2050 is no greater than net zero.*

2 FIVE-YEAR CARBON BUDGETS

Cap total GHG emissions and fairly distribute emissions reductions across the country. Tabled before Parliament. Basis for mitigation planning.

Long-term target in 2050 – but how do we get there.

Think about our GHG emission goals in terms of percentage decrease (over base year) in a given year. Alternatively, or in addition, translate goals as a cap on volume of emissions over a set period of time.



3

FIVE-YEAR IMPACT REPORTS

Assess risks of current and predicted climate impacts in Canada. Tabled before Parliament. The basis for adaptation planning.



Government must report to Parliament on the risks to Canada of climate change.



Reports must be completed every five years, and precede the next carbon budget by 1-2 years.



The government must take the advice of the expert committee into account when creating reports.

4 PLANNING & REPORTING

Plans, progress reports on plan implementation and requirement for government to respond to expert progress reports. Tabled before Parliament.



Government must prepare and table plans to meet next carbon budgets (mitigation plan) and address the impacts of climate change (adaptation plan).



Government must meet deadline for tabling the plans, ideally 1-2 years after carbon budget is set (for the mitigation plan) and 1-2 years after an impact report is tabled (for the adaptation plan).



The expert committee must report annually on (1) progress on budgets/targets and (2) progress on implementing the adaptation plan.



The government must regularly report on progress towards targets/budgets and adaptation, and must respond to the expert committee's annual progress reports.

5

ARM'S LENGTH EXPERT COMMITTEE

Advise on long-term targets, five-year carbon budgets, climate impact reports and policy solutions. Independently monitor and report on implementation progress.



Range of expertise and knowledge and regional representation stipulated in legislation. Indigenous representation to ensure rights, knowledge and experience Indigenous peoples integrated.



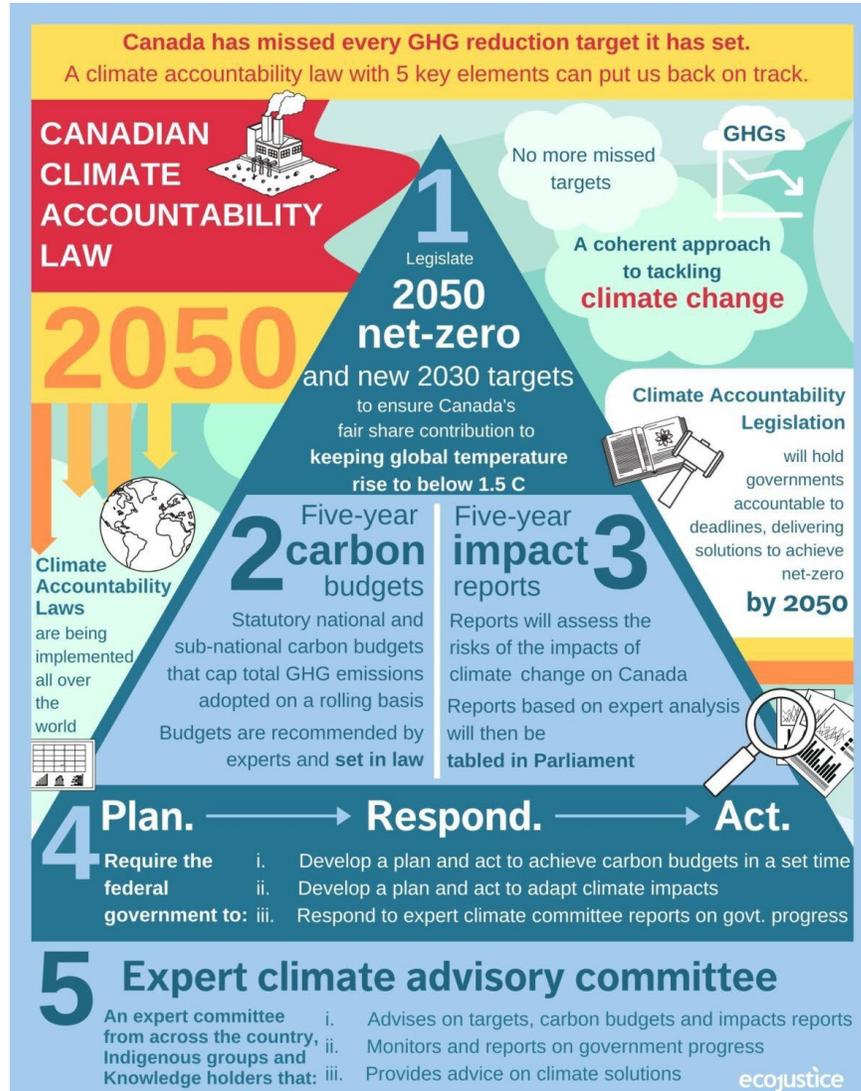
Provide time bound input on targets, budgets, impact reports and climate policy.



Report annually to Parliament on progress to meetings budgets and targets and implementing adaptation plans.



Duty to consult widely, including with sub-national governments, when drafting advice and reports.



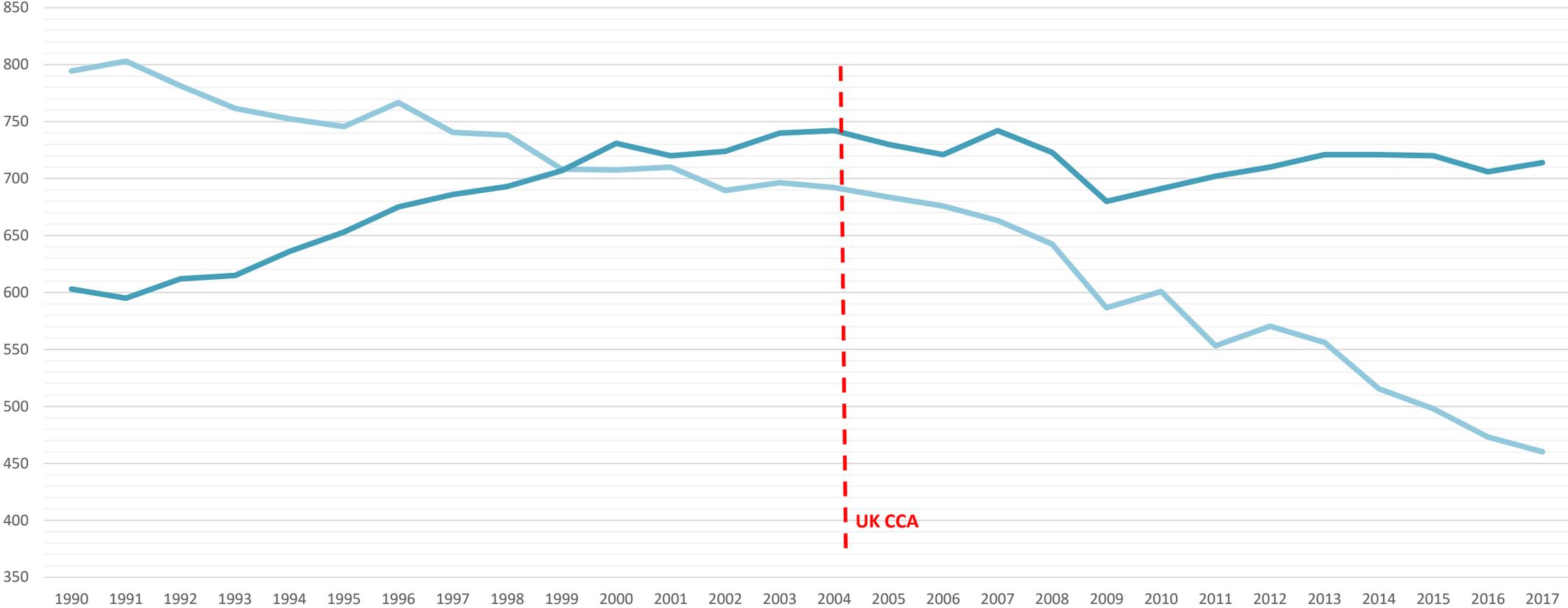
Canadian climate accountability law

Read the full report: <https://ecojustice.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/A-New-Canadian-Climate-Accountability-Act-Detailed-Report-1.pdf?x64512>

Read the policy brief: <https://ecojustice.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Policy-Brief-New-Canadian-Climate-Accountability-Act-1.pdf?x64512>

CANADA VS UK GHG EMISSIONS: 1990-2017

UK GHG EMISSIONS (MT CO₂e) CANADA GHG EMISSIONS (MT CO₂e)



Keep the pressure on your MP

1. Email and call your constituency office

- Share personal concerns and your lived experience with climate change.
- For phone calls, leave a voicemail.
- Tailor your message:
 - Liberal MPs: fulfill election platform commitment to legislate net-zero by 2050 and deliver a world-class climate law (i.e., five pillars).
 - Bloc & NDP MPs: push Liberals to go beyond platform promise and ensure Canada enacts a climate accountability law with strong accountability mechanisms.
 - Conservative MPs: support the government's commitment to legislate net-zero by 2050 targets and the climate action needed to achieve it.

2. Send letters to the editor

- A short letter, particularly in local papers, is a good way to raise the profile of climate accountability with MPs.

3. Use social media

- Tag MPs in news stories about climate change with a message about the need for a new, strong climate accountability act that ensures Canada never misses another climate target.

4. Participate in the House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development (ENVI)

- Once a bill gets to ENVI, submit a short brief.
- Request to appear before ENVI to offer testimony.
- For more info: <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Committees/en/Participate>

Thank you for joining us today!

For more info visit ecojustice.ca
