

Submissions to the Climate Portal
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How and where to reduce emissions

Phase out coal. Remove all subsidies that support fossil fuel industries - it is unacceptable to continue to put tax payer money into these industries. Add low-carbon requirements to all government procurements. Require all new construction to be zero emission by 2025. Develop a plan to move towards organic agriculture in order to reduce emissions and store more carbon in soil. Measure progress not by GDP but by elimination of poverty, education, environmental quality and health of people.

Clean technology, innovation and job creation

We need to quickly move to an electrified society, but one that is powered by clean, renewable energy. This includes retrofitting homes, building renewable energy and sufficient infrastructure for electric transportation. Renewable energy should be broadly distributed and developed using community investment and should be owned by communities and citizens. This will aid in providing revenue to struggling municipalities. Support and policy structures should enable municipalities to be involved. Renewable energy should not include large hydro projects or nuclear.

Preparing for the impacts of climate change

Adaptation will be extremely important in New Brunswick. Natural approaches (e.g. maintaining wetlands, planting along coasts and riversides) and maintaining ecosystem services should be the priority approach to adaptation and mitigation. Climate should be a required consideration for all projects and land use. As well, local communities and municipalities, backed by guidelines, should be the lead in determining local adaptation and mitigation needs. The federal government must provide the resources that are needed for sufficient adaptation and mitigation. New Brunswick forest policies must change so that tax payers are no longer subsidizing the development of softwood tree plantations that will be very vulnerable to a warming climate.

Putting a price on carbon

The fundamental principle of “polluter pays” must be followed in Canada’s climate plan. This will require pricing carbon. New Brunswick forestry policies must change to increase carbon sequestration.