

The Ontario Liberal Party has released its platform, [*A Place to Grow*](#) - a fair and progressive plan that includes the only fully-costed and modelled plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% below 2005 levels by 2030. A critical part of this plan is to transition to a fully clean energy supply and bring emissions down from the electricity sector to as close to zero as possible by 2030 (estimated 0.2 Mt CO₂ equivalent). We'll develop a long-term energy plan that reverses the Ford Conservatives' cuts to energy conservation programs and includes the right, cost-effective mix of nuclear, hydroelectricity and renewables. We'll renew the Ontario Electricity Rebate and 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 eliminate set-up connection fees for rooftop solar charging panels and bidirectional electric vehicle charging, and support projects with Indigenous and Northern communities that reduce reliance on diesel and drive electrification in the remote north – including by supporting completion of the Wataynikaneyap Transmission Project. We will also implement a methane performance standard for Ontario's natural gas to reduce emissions from home heating and advance the increased use of renewable natural gas. Similar to the recently released unpublished scenario in the Independent Electricity System Operator's report on phasing out natural gas electricity in Ontario by 2030, we expect that by investing in energy storage, low-cost renewables, and energy efficiency, we will decrease costs for ratepayers while reducing our carbon pollution.

Forests help soak up pollution and keep our air clean and a lack of trees, especially in our cities, creates a heating effect and makes us more vulnerable to flooding. We'll plant 800 million trees over the next eight years as part of the national commitment to 2 billion – focused on restoring ecosystems and protecting drinking water. Planting this many trees will be the equivalent of taking 500,000 cars off the road and will create 2,000 green jobs for graduating students who want to dedicate a year toward nature-based solutions and engaging local communities on climate action.

We will also make a record-level investment in new public transit infrastructure. We will provide transit agencies with operational funding (an additional \$375 million annually) to maintain reliable and frequent service. We'll slash fares to \$1 through to 2024 and make public transit the cheapest mode of transportation for the people of Ontario. Moreover, our government will encourage biking and strengthen bike infrastructure and safety. All of these will help us reduce emissions from cars and will keep our air clean.

Thank you for your advocacy to keep Ontario clean and beautiful. Our Ontario Liberal plan gets Ontario back on track by tackling today's climate emergency, cleaning our air, changing how we move and creating jobs through climate action.