



CLIMATEFAST

LET'S ACT ON CLIMATE - FAST!

CLIMATEFAST NEWSLETTER APRIL 2022

The ClimateFast newsletter shares information about the Climate Crisis that may interest our readers, and does not necessarily reflect the views of ClimateFast members. If you have an event or resource you would like to share, please send it to newsletter@climatefast.ca

EARTH DAY

22 APRIL 2022

For Earth Day 2022,
together, for everyone,
everything, every day...

#InvestInOurPlanet



The Earth Day 2022 Theme is **Invest In Our Planet. What Will You Do?** Check out the [Earth Day website](#) to find information on Earth Day events, activities, and what individuals and organizations can do to make a difference. [Earth Day Canada](#) suggests calling in sick - and taking an action on the 22nd to help the earth. We can all make a contribution.

JOIN A 'YOURS TO PROTECT' ACTION APRIL 22 - 24



April 22-24, 2022 across Ontario
Ontario's environment is under attack from pollution, sprawl and regulatory cutbacks, so this Earth Day we're coming together to protect the lakes, rivers and forests we love. Check the [Yours to Protect Weekend](#) website to find rallies, hikes, info booths by grassroots activists at municipal Earth Day events, a parade and community clean-ups all across the province. With a provincial election coming up on June 2nd, it's more important than ever that politicians from all parties know that Ontarians care deeply about the environment.

ONTARIO CLIMATE ELECTION CAMPAIGN



Which future will it be? A living world, or a dying one?

Just 44 days to make a difference in the June 2nd election! Get involved in one of these exciting campaigns!

On April 13th, the Provincial Climate Election Campaign was launched online, with four organizations outlining four great campaigns, and explaining how people can become involved. [Read more about the campaigns](#) and volunteer! **We need all hands on deck!**

Watch the video [recording of ClimateFast's Ontario Election Campaign Launch](#).

Why is this election so important for climate and environment? View this 4 min [video from Hamilton350](#).

PROVINCIAL KITCHEN CLIMATE CONVERSATIONS



To take action in ClimateFast's own **Provincial Kitchen Table Climate Conversation** campaign, join the conversation! View the [backgrounder](#), follow the unfolding [blog](#) series or check out the social media [reels](#). Feel free to share! For more resources and ideas, see the full [slide deck](#) from the launch.

ONTARIO CLIMATE EMERGENCY CAMPAIGN (OCEC)

ClimateFast is a member of this quickly growing campaign for a comprehensive 12 point Climate Action Plan for Ontario. We are calling for all the political parties - and the candidates - to pledge their support for this plan. [Pledge your support](#). Organizations! Businesses, faith groups, community groups - all are welcome! [Please sign on here](#).

Watch this video for inspiration!

David Suzuki and Severn Cullis-Suzuki speak about the [Climate Emergency Campaign](#).

ALL CANDIDATES DEBATES

Debates are being organized in priority ridings. Help is needed in Mississauga, Scarborough, Willowdale, Richmond Hill and Markham! Contact ondebates@greenpac.ca to volunteer or lyn@climatefast.ca for more information.

GET OUT ON THE STREET WITH THE [ONTARIO VOTERS COALITION!](#)

LEARN ABOUT A [NEW CAMPAIGN](#) BY TIM ELLIS 'NOT ONE SEAT'!

Find out more about climate election campaigns on our [website!](#)

Want to help? Fill in our [volunteer form here](#).

FUNDRAISER FOR 1.5 DEGREES OF PEACE



ClimateFast member Mark Shapland is running a fundraising campaign for the youth documentary film, 1.5 Degrees of Peace. Mark has challenged himself to run the 42 km Toronto Marathon, to be held May 1st, in 3.5 hours. He will be running 3.5 hours for 1.5 Degrees of Peace - and raising \$3,500 to help the film reach its finish line. [Learn more about the film, the campaign and Mark](#). Donations to the campaign are welcome.

CALLS TO ACTION

National Strategy Respecting Environmental Racism and Environmental Justice Act (Bill C-226).

Later this month, MP's will debate and vote on the National Strategy Respecting Environmental Racism and Environmental Justice Act (Bill C-226). The following organizations have prepared customizable letters for you to send to your MP to urge them to pass this bill.

Ecojustice

David Suzuki Foundation

Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment

Just Transition to a Net-Zero Carbon Economy



The Government of Canada is seeking input for the latest round of public consultations on a just transition to a net-zero carbon economy. We need to get as many submissions in as possible. Fossil fuel lobbyists and supporters will be sharing their views, so it's critical that the Government hear from people who are concerned about climate change, too!

Submissions are **due on April 30th** and are to be sent via email to: nrcan.justtransition-transitionequitable.nrcan@canada.ca or visit www.just-transition.ca.

General messages you may wish to consider conveying in your submission:

- Urgency: the longer it takes to implement a Just Transition, the harder it will be.
- The approach must be a national, multi-tiered, multi-sectoral approach.
- The mandate established through Just Transition legislation must be enforceable.
- Impacted communities must have weighted seating on committees.

To assist you in writing your submission, we have created a [google document](#) with a compilation of points that you may wish to include in your email as well as a few examples to help get you started.

Proposed Amendment to the Greenbelt Area Boundary Regulation



The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is seeking feedback on changes to the boundary of the Greenbelt Area through a proposed amendment to O. Reg. 59/05. 3

Read the Narwhal's analysis of what's missing from the proposed expansion of the Ontario Greenbelt.

Petition To The Government Of Canada to Regulate Coal

This [petition](#), open until May 10, calls on the government to:

1. Add thermal coal to the Priority Substances List of the Canadian Environment Protection Act (CEPA), and, as soon thereafter as possible, to the Toxic Substances List of CEPA; and
 2. Regulate the mining, use, export, and import of thermal coal in Canada in accordance with our international commitments to reduce carbon emissions at home and abroad.
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EVENTS



Earth Day Ravine Cleanup

Saturday April 23, 2022, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

E.T. Seton Park south parking lot entrance road,
73 Thorncliffe Park Drive, Toronto.

[Register](#)



Earth Day Tree Planting - Elm Creek Park

Saturday, April 23, 2022, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Elm Creek Park, 7320 Darcel Avenue, Mississauga

[Register](#)



Environmental Celebration and Grow Green Awards Ceremony

Saturday, 23 April 2022, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Norton Place Park, 170 Clark Boulevard, Brampton
Everyone is invited to take part in the festivities.

[Register](#)



Ontario Federation of Labour - May 1st Rally

Sunday, May 1, 2022, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM.

Queen's Park, South Lawn, 111 Wellesley St West Toronto

Take part in the province-wide day of action for a workers-first agenda - an opportunity for all struggles for justice to come together to unite for a better world. In

Toronto, the event takes place at May 01, [Find other local](#)

[actions.](#)

If you'd like to join in with other supportive environmental groups, meet at 11:30 at Grange Park for a joint BBQ with [Justice for Workers](#) and march to Queens Park with them at 1pm.

[RSVP.](#)

Rally for Better Transit in Scarborough

Join [TTC Riders](#) at a rally for improved public transit and bus service in Scarborough on May 7 at 2:00pm – 3:30pm EDT, at Albert Campbell Square (Scarborough Civic Centre).

[Take action.](#)

Emergency in Ontario: Rally for Climate, Communities and Nature!



Saturday, May 14th, 1:00 - 3:30 pm

Queen's Park (south lawn), 111 Wellesley St West Toronto

Ontario's environment is under threat. Greenhouse gas emissions are on the rise again, protections for nature are being dismantled, and mega projects are encroaching on our communities. This spring we have a chance to choose

another path - one that prioritizes people and the planet.

In the lead up to the provincial election, show your support for a flourishing, low-carbon Ontario that offers good green jobs, prioritizes our collective health, and respects Indigenous rights. Let's come together and make it clear that we want a government that will take immediate action to bring down emissions, protect biodiversity, and build sustainable communities. You'll also hear a range of inspiring speakers and performers!

This is a family friendly event hosted by Environmental Defence, Climate Voice, David Suzuki Foundation, Ontario Climate Emergency Campaign, Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE) - Ontario, ClimateFast, Seniors for Climate Action Now! (SCAN), Music Declares Emergency Canada

#VoteForTheEnvironment

#EmergencyinOntarioRally

More information

10th Anniversary Lecture with Kate Raworth and Michael Layton on Doughnut Economics

May 19th, 4 - 6 PM (online)

Discover a novel vision of what it means for humanity to thrive in the 21st century through the Doughnut Model and Doughnut Economics and explore the mindset and ways of thinking needed to get us there. Attendees will be able to add live comments to see how one of the key brainstorming tools works.

- **Dr. Kate Raworth**, economist and author of international bestseller *Doughnut Economics: seven ways to think like a 21st century economist* will highlight key components of the approach from a global perspective.
- **Mike Layton**, Toronto City Councillor for Ward 11, University-Rosedale, has worked tirelessly to protect and improve City services that people depend on. He will share insights in the application of this model in the Toronto region.

[Register here](#)

NEWS

Fabulous news! Quebec bans oil and gas exploration!!!

[Read the article in the Energy Mix.](#)

Great news! Paris joins the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative!

The [Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative](#) continues to grow around the world! [Read the Paris announcement.](#) You too can endorse the treaty and also sign on your organization.

Not so great news; Ford cuts climate target April 17

Read the [CBC article on revisions to Ontario's plan](#) for meeting its 2030 targets for cutting carbon emissions.

Canada's 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan released

Environment and Climate Change Canada released the [2030 Emissions Reduction Plan](#) on March 29th, 2022. Read the [backgrounder from the Climate Emergency Unit](#) and a summary review in [The Energy Mix](#).

Bradford Bypass lawsuit launched

Represented by the environmental law charity Ecojustice, [seven environmental groups filed a lawsuit](#) against Canada's environment minister for his failure to require an impact assessment of the Bradford (Holland Marsh) Bypass. This Ontario freeway project would pave over wetlands, fertile farmland and wildlife habitats, and increase pollution and risks of flooding.

RESOURCES



Climate Change Quiz

This Earth Day, test your understanding of the world's greatest threat with the [Climate Change Quiz](#) from EARTHDAY.ORG.



Youth Climate Action

Canada's National Observer has compiled this [Special Report on Youth Climate Action](#). Meet young Canadians who are addressing the Climate Crisis with creative solutions.



Project Drawdown 2021 Report

The Annual Outcomes and Outlook Report provides a snapshot of accomplishments during 2021 and highlights the urgency of ramping up our efforts to promote science-based climate solutions that help individuals and organizations reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

[Read the report](#)



The National Climate League's (NCL) 2021 Standings

The National Climate League is a yearly project of The [Climate Reality Project Canada](#), first launched in the Winter of 2018. To quantify positive impacts they track progress on fifteen primary and fifteen complementary indicators across their twenty-three hub cities. At citizens' request, municipalities submit data for each indicator based on a variety of methodologies established by the project.

[Read the report](#)

IPCC Sixth Assessment Report



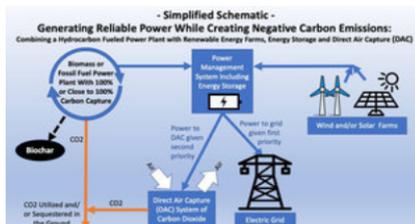
IPCC Report: Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has released their report on climate change mitigation. In the words of UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, the report warns of an “enormous, growing emissions gap”, adding up to a “file of shame” that “puts humanity on track toward an unlivable world”. The IPCC report also provides practical solutions and options that could still limit global warming to 1.5 C, if there is international cooperation.

[Read the Energy Mix special report on the latest IPCC Report.](#)

[Read the IPCC Report Summary for Policymakers](#)

[Read the full IPCC Report](#)



Creating Carbon-Negative Energy from Biomass

Paul Stevers, President of [Think Renewables Group Inc](#) and member of ClimateFast, authored this article on [How to Profitably Create Carbon-Negative Energy from Biomass.](#)



Green Resilience Project Report

The Green Resilience project brought together people in communities across the country to imagine a better future. The [final report](#) includes a discussion of key conversation themes and recommendations for governments and policymakers. [Watch the webinar recording.](#)



What Do Canadians Really Think About Climate Change?

A summary of public opinion research for communicators. Highly recommended report! Very valuable information about how the public views the climate as compared to other concerns.

[Read the report](#)



Can We Live Well On Half The Energy We Currently Use?

A study published in the *Global Environmental Change* journal shows that enjoying a decent living with minimum energy—living well with less energy—is possible. Check out Stephen Leahy’s article “[Living well on less energy](#)” featured on Below 2 Degrees.

[See the study](#)

"We have the opportunity to build a better world. It's in our hands. Yours and mine. Everyone's. It rests in our decisions, every day, in every part of our lives—whether as a voter, a community member, a consumer, an employee, a family member, or a friend. Every choice we make is a choice between the world we have today and building something better tomorrow—something that bends the arc of history towards a more livable and just future."

Dr. Jonathan Foley, Executive Director, Drawdown Impact: Annual Outcomes and Outlook Report, April 2022, p.3



ClimateFast is run solely by volunteers. Your donation will be used for mailings, campaign materials, room rentals and transportation



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You may donate online or by cheque, made payable to:

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Your support is very much appreciated!