



**CLIMATE PROOF
CANADA**

Building a Resilient Tomorrow

MEDIA RELEASE

Protect existing communities and build more climate-resilient homes in Budget 2024

April 2, 2024 (OTTAWA) – Ahead of Budget 2024, Climate Proof Canada has been urging the federal government to implement critical investments in climate-resilient housing and infrastructure identified in the National Adaptation Strategy (NAS).

The Coalition is encouraged by the federal government's announcement to invest \$1 billion in urgent infrastructure investments, including for water and waste water management, which will enable more housing construction in municipalities; in addition to the pledge of further spending on housing, as part of provincial and territorial action plans.

The Coalition also agrees with the proposed changes to the National Building Code to support more accessible, affordable, and climate-friendly housing options.

These are positive moves, however the details matter. The government must ensure that new homes and communities will be climate resilient — built in the right way and in the right places, while avoiding high-risk zones that are prone to hazards such as flooding and wildfire.

Climate Proof Canada supports the need for a long-term climate plan that reduces emissions and ensures our homes and communities are more resilient to the increasing frequency and severity of climate-related disasters and catastrophic weather events. In other words, Canada's climate policy must play both offence and defence.

Disasters affect almost every part of Canada. Severe weather events in the previous two years alone caused more than \$6 billion in insured losses, ranking among the highest annual totals on record.

Climate Proof Canada submitted 11 recommendations in its [pre-budget consultation](#) in February 2024, which are based on its [series of recommendations](#) to guide federal investment and enable Canada to become more climate resilient.

Climate Proof Canada urges the Federal Government to act on these critical recommendations:

- Fund the implementation of the National Adaptation Strategy Action Plan by allocating at least \$5.3 billion annually over the next five years.
- Build new, climate-resilient homes in the right ways and in the right places by avoiding building in high-risk flood and wildfire zones. Ensure that all new federal housing, infrastructure and funding programs incorporate climate resilience, focusing on flood, wildfire and extreme heat.
- Invest in a low-cost National Flood Insurance Program for properties at highest risk, and introduce measures to help those who may not be captured under the program.
- On Indigenous resilience, immediately expand existing program eligibility requirements to empower First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples to improve their ability to access/engage in all existing and future National Adaptation Strategy-related activities.

Date set for the National Climate Adaptation Summit in Ottawa: October 22, 2024

Once again, Climate Proof Canada will bring together leaders from government, business, NGOs, Indigenous communities, municipalities and other stakeholders with the goal of making Canada more resilient to climate change.

At the Summit, the Coalition will share the updated recommendations to make rapid, tangible progress on implementing the federal government's National Adaptation Strategy and will hold a series of discussions about building safe and thriving communities for all people living in Canada.

About Climate Proof Canada

Climate Proof Canada is a national coalition of business representatives, disaster relief organizations, municipalities, Indigenous organizations, environmental NGOs and think tanks that believe Canada must prepare for the present and growing effects of climate change by building a more disaster-resilient country. For more information, visit [Climate Proof Canada](#).



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