



**CLIMATE PROOF
CANADA**

Building a Resilient Tomorrow

MEDIA RELEASE

Climate Proof Canada Statement following the 2024 Federal Budget *New investments to protect Canadians from flooding and enhance Indigenous resilience announced; but no significant investment in support of climate resilience*

April 16, 2024 (OTTAWA) – Climate Proof Canada welcomes new investments in emergency preparedness, including a commitment to deliver a national flood insurance program for high-risk households, an early warning system for extreme weather events, wildfire fighting capacity and new funding to enhance Indigenous community resilience, as announced today in the 2024 federal budget.

2023 was an historic wildfire season in Canada and this past winter was warmer than usual. The country faces dangerously dry conditions with a significant threat of renewed wildfire conditions and extreme heat. Budget 2024 was a missed opportunity to invest significant new funds to better prepare for the forthcoming wildfire season and falls short of further meaningful resources to better prepare for the present and growing effects of climate change in Canada. Canadians urgently need these investments to protect our health and wellness from the impacts of wildfires and other severe weather events.

Every community across Canada is at heightened risk of natural catastrophes and more must be done to protect our communities. Severe weather in 2023 caused \$3.5 billion in insured damage alone making it in the top four worst years on record for insured damages in Canadian history. Climate Proof Canada [developed recommendations](#) to support rapid tangible progress to better adapt to climate change impacts and ensure our communities are more resilient in the face of the increasing frequency and severity of natural disasters.

Budget 2024 represents a step forward to better protecting existing high-risk communities with affordable flood insurance in partnership with the Property & Casualty insurance industry by 2025. This program should align with additional measures need to Disaster Financial Assistance (DFAA) to protect those who may not be captured under the proposed flood insurance program. In addition, to better prepare for extreme weather events the federal government has delivered important new funding to Canada's early warning system with a focus on flood and storm surges.

Climate Proof Canada welcomes additional commitments to improve emergency preparedness and climate resiliency in Indigenous communities and to support the training of wildfire fighting capacity. This new funding should invest in protecting communities and essential infrastructure across the country.

We are disappointed that once again, funds to implement and sustain the National Adaptation Strategy (NAS) have not been allocated in today's budget. Nor were climate adaptation measures adequately incorporated into the federal housing plan, which should be implemented in a way to avoid building new homes in high-risk flood and wildfire areas while incorporating resilience into the National Building Code.

Climate Proof Canada remains committed to working closely with the federal government and opposition parties to support rapid tangible progress on Canada's National Adaptation Strategy. To this end, our coalition will host our second annual National Climate Adaptation Summit in Ottawa on Tuesday, October 22nd to advance high-level political visibility and support for investments in enhancing the resilience of Canadian households and communities across the country.



About Climate Proof Canada

Climate Proof Canada is a national coalition of Canadian business representatives, disaster relief organizations, municipalities, Indigenous organizations, environmental NGOs, and think tanks that believes Canada must prepare for the present and growing effects of climate change through building a more disaster-resilient country

For more information, visit [Climate Proof Canada](https://climateproof.ca).

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For more information or to arrange an interview with a Climate Proof Canada expert, please email Climate Proof Canada Media Relations at media@climateproof.ca.

