

A stylized illustration of a group of people in silhouette, holding up a large, wavy banner. The banner is dark red and contains white text. Below the banner, a teal rectangular box contains white text.

**4 MARKERS THAT A
GOVERNMENT HAS SHIFTED INTO
EMERGENCY MODE.**

And how these markers would look with a government in **climate** emergency mode

SPEND WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN



During the COVID-19 pandemic, our governments committed to spending what it takes to ensure the safety of our citizens.

For the climate emergency, we need to:

- **Spend 2% of our GDP on climate mitigation actions and infrastructure**
- **Spend 2% of our GDP on social infrastructure to ensure no one is left behind.**

That would be about \$80 billion annually (based on 2019 GDP).

CREATE NEW INSTITUTIONS TO GET THE JOB DONE

DURING WW2, CANADA:

- **Created 28 new crown corporations to produce enough equipment for the war**
- **Increased manufacturing of aircraft by 25 fold in ONLY 2 years!**
- **Increased shipbuilders from 2,000 to 30,000 by the end of the war.**

But in response to the climate crisis, we've seen nothing of this sort.

SHIFT FROM VOLUNTARY POLICIES TO MANDATORY MEASURES



When it comes to the climate emergency, actions taken to date have been almost entirely voluntary...

We INCENTIVIZE.

We OFFER REBATES.

We SEND PRICE SIGNALS.

We NEED to REQUIRE CHANGE.

We need clear, near-term dates with requirements (e.g., mandate that all new buildings will not be permitted to use natural gas or other fossil fuels for heating as of 2023).



TELL THE TRUTH ABOUT THE SEVERITY OF THE CRISIS AND THE MEASURES NECESSARY TO COMBAT IT



The leaders we remember best from WW2 were outstanding communicators that were forthright about the gravity of the crisis, yet still managed to impart hope. Our governments have modelled similar emergency communication throughout the pandemic:

- **We receive daily press briefings.**
- **We hear regularly from public health officials.**

The media has taken seriously its duty to provide the necessary information .

Can we communicate about the climate emergency the same way?

During WW2, the Canadian government met
all four markers of emergency mode.

Likewise, the Trudeau government has
passed all four markers in response to the
pandemic.

But with respect to the climate emergency –
thus far at least – our current federal and
provincial governments are failing on all four
counts.

An illustration of three stylized human figures from the chest down, holding a large white sign. The figure on the left wears a light blue short-sleeved shirt. The middle figure wears a maroon short-sleeved shirt. The figure on the right wears a light blue vest over a yellow short-sleeved shirt. The background is dark blue. The sign is white with black text.

**Our climate mobilization must include
TWO more markers...**

These markers were not adequately reflected in the Second World War or Canada's pandemic response but they are necessary to a successful climate change mobilization.



LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

Emergency mobilizations require social cohesion, but inequality undermines such collaboration.

The COVID-19 pandemic has further lifted the veil on the inequities in our society. We must tackle climate change and inequities at the same time.

WE NEED A JUST TRANSITION.

No one can be left behind in the grand decarbonization transition before us.

RESPECT INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP, RIGHTS AND TREATIES



The path forward has to be one of true cooperation and partnership, and one that honours and respects Indigenous title and rights.

We MUST listen to Indigenous communities about the climate crisis.

We need to right the injustices of the past and fundamentally break the colonial practices that have marked our politics and economic development for centuries.

**INTERESTED IN LEARNING
MORE ABOUT THE CLIMATE
EMERGENCY?**



**JOIN OUR
MAILING LIST!**

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