

BC Election 2017: Climate Action Counts

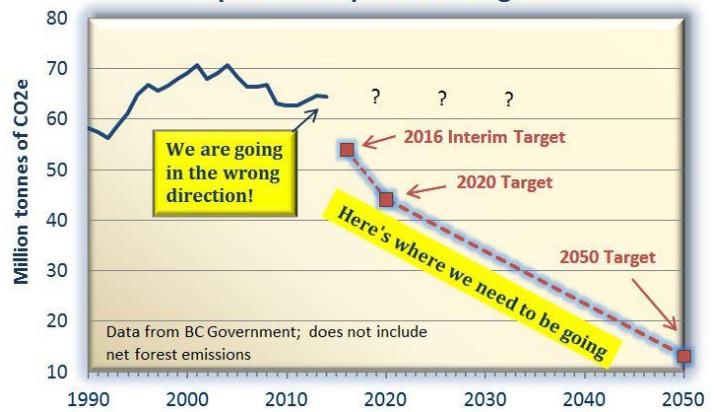
The Nelson–West Kootenay Chapter of [Citizens' Climate Lobby](#) (CCL) has prepared this summary of major party platforms on climate action to help you better understand your choices. CCL is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on creating the political will for a livable planet.

The material presented here is taken from published sources, and every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. In presenting this information for voters, CCL does not support any political party.

For more information and links to sources:

<http://canada.citizensclimatelobby.org/ccl-canada-news/>
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Greenhouse Gas Emissions in British Columbia (1990-2014) and our targets



Climate Action Issue	Liberal	NDP	Green
<p><u>Pricing carbon*</u></p> <p>A steadily rising carbon tax is the most effective way to reduce emissions.</p> <p>BC has had a carbon tax since 2008 – it's been frozen at \$30/tonne since 2012.</p>	<p>Hold carbon price at \$30 until 2021</p> <p>Will review in 2020 to decide whether to increase</p>	<p>Increase the carbon tax starting in 2020, rising to \$50 by 2022 (the Federal minimum carbon price)</p>	<p>Increase the carbon tax starting in 2018, rising to \$70 by 2021</p> <p>Expand to include forestry slash burning and methane from fossil fuel development</p>
<p><u>Use of Revenue from Carbon Tax</u></p> <p>CCL advocates that carbon tax revenues be returned to citizens, which would protect the poor and middle class from rising prices.</p> <p>Border tax adjustments can level the playing field for businesses, but can only be implemented Federally.</p>	<p>Revenue neutral, mainly thru reduced personal and business tax rates and special sector tax breaks</p> <p>11% refunded as low income climate action tax credit</p>	<p>Use portion of new carbon tax revenues to expand household rebates</p> <p>Divert some carbon tax funds to transit, energy efficiency, etc.</p>	<p>Carbon tax revenues to be invested to facilitate the low carbon economy</p> <p>Some revenue would go toward a Low-Income Benefit (up to \$205 per month)</p>
<p><u>Methane emissions</u></p> <p>Methane is a potent greenhouse gas that is released during fossil fuel extraction and transportation (drilling, fracking, pipelines, coal mining; also called "fugitive emissions"). Methane can be reduced by expanding the carbon tax or through regulations.</p>	<p>45% reduction in fugitive methane by 2025</p>	<p>Committed to implementing Climate Leadership Team's recommendations, which include a 40% reduction for fugitive and vented methane in 5 yrs</p>	<p>Expand carbon tax to include fugitive and vented emissions (including coal mining): \$10/t CO2e in 2018 rising to \$50 by 2021</p>
<p><u>Fossil fuel subsidies</u></p> <p>Transitioning off fossil fuels will require ending fossil fuel subsidies.</p>	<p>Increased subsidies - supports cheap electricity for LNG & other oil & gas operations, as well as other special tax breaks</p>	<p>Supported reduced tax rate for LNG in 2014, and electrical subsidy for Woodfibre LNG project</p> <p>Will review oil and gas subsidies, but proposes increased subsidies for mining (includes coal)</p>	<p>Party leader Weaver only MLA to vote against reduced LNG tax rate; opposes electrical subsidies to LNG</p>
<p><u>Setting targets</u></p> <p>In 2007, BC legislated targets for reducing our greenhouse gas emissions for 2020 and 2050.</p> <p>We will not meet our 2020 target due to lack of action (see graph). We need ambitious interim targets before 2050.</p>	<p>No interim target</p> <p>Supports 2050 target</p>	<p>2030 - 40% below 2007</p> <p>Supports 2050 target</p>	<p>2030 - 40% below 2007</p> <p>Supports 2050 target</p>
<p><u>Growth of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Industry</u></p> <p>Growing the LNG industry would require very large reductions for the rest of BC, and would make it impossible to meet our 2050 target.</p>	<p>19 proposals on the table, no conditions around emissions targets</p> <p>2 approved to date</p>	<p>LNG facilities must align with commitments to combat climate change</p> <p>Supports one of approved LNG projects (Woodfibre LNG)</p>	<p>Opposed to LNG expansion</p> <p>All major emitters subject to emissions targets</p>

*In BC the carbon tax is only applied at the point of sale of the fuel. Since [one third of our emissions](#) are from direct burning of fossil fuels and 2/3 are indirect based on what we consume, CCL advocates for a [national carbon fee](#) to be implemented "upstream" at the well head, mine, or point of entry so that more of the economy is covered.