

LET'S BUILD CANADA.



Fact sheet

Building the Canada of tomorrow is vital for a wide range of reasons, and the data backs it up. Here are the facts about why it's time for the leaders of tomorrow to ally with Canada's unionized workers to build the infrastructure we need for the future world.

Infrastructure

1. From the [Jobs for Tomorrow Report](#):
 - a. If we build \$150 billion of urban transit infrastructure between now and 2050, we can create approximately 245,000 jobs.
 - b. If we build small district energy systems in half of Canada's cities with more than 100,000 people by 2050, we can create almost 22,000 construction jobs.
 - c. If we move Canada to a power grid supply composed mainly of hydroelectric, new wind, solar, geothermal and tidal power, plus legacy nuclear, it would result in more than 1 million jobs by 2050.
 - d. If we invest in net-zero building retrofits and new green construction techniques for industrial, commercial and institutional buildings, we could create nearly 2 million jobs.
2. [According to CUPE](#), Canada's infrastructure deficit stands at over \$150 billion.
 - a. Canada is the [only G8 country](#) without existing high-speed rail infrastructure, and the only G20 country with no plans to build one.
 - b. Despite home retrofits for energy efficiency and conservation being a very effective way to reduce GHGs, 92% of buildings have not been retrofitted.
 - c. The transportation sector generated 28% of Canada's GHG emissions in 2014.
 - d. Canada has enormous unrealized potential for electricity generated from solar, wind and geothermal sources as well as hydrocarbons.

Climate Change

1. Canada's climate is warming [twice as fast as the global average](#).
2. Even if we take significant steps to reduce greenhouse gases, some [additional degree of climate change is unavoidable](#) and will have significant economic, social and environmental impacts on Canadian communities.
 - a. Permafrost thawing is expected to have significant effects on northern infrastructure.
 - b. Increased drying of the continental interior, reduced snowpack and shrinking glaciers are anticipated to create shortages for farming, hydroelectric power, shipping and local water supplies.
 - c. Increasing frequency of heat waves and smog episodes are expected to cause morbidity and mortality, especially in large cities, where heat island effects amplify these events.
 - d. Increasing severity of extreme weather events like floods will impact our economy, infrastructure and health.
 - e. The costs from extreme weather events in Canada between 2000 and 2015 were greater than all previous years combined.
3. [The Expert Panel on Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience](#) is recommending integrating climate resilience into infrastructure investments.
4. Canadians [produce more greenhouse gas emissions per person](#) than any other G20 economy.
 - a. Canada is the 38th country in the world by size, the 11th largest economy and the seventh biggest emitter.
5. The IPCC calls for "[rapid and profound near-term decarbonization of energy supply](#)" and strong upscaling to a zero-emission energy supply system by mid-century just to maintain 1.5 degrees of warming.

Labour and Good Jobs

1. From a [study of right-to-work laws in three US Midwest states](#) versus three states with no RTW:
 - e. In Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin, the introduction of RTW laws have statistically reduced the unionization rate by 2.1 percentage points on average and lowered real hourly wages by a total of 2.6 percent on average.
 - f. Wages grew faster in the three US states with no RTW laws than in states which enacted one.
 - g. Wages were lowered most steeply in career paths like construction, which traditionally provide pathways to the middle class.
2. While unemployment is as low as it has been since the 1970s, [wages are stagnant](#).
3. Canada ranked [16th](#) among 36 OECD countries in 2016 in terms of funding for labour markets (training, education, etc).
4. Since 1980, the bottom half of Canada's earners have [actually seen their earnings in the workforce shrink](#), when adjusted for inflation, while incomes for the top 1% have more than doubled.
5. Since 2016, [workers' real wages rose by just 0.37%](#), while senior managers' real wages rose by 11.64%.
6. Canada's [rate of unionization fell](#) from 37.6% in 1981 to 28.8% in 2014.
7. Unionized workers in Canada are paid, on average, [an extra \\$5.26 an hour more](#) than non-unionized workers. That adds up to another \$180 per week and another \$9,000 per year.
8. Apprentices in a unionized setting are [30% more likely to complete their training](#) than those outside a union.
9. Anti-union legislation such as Bills C-377 and C-525 must not be brought back.

The Election

1. In 2015, four ridings were decided by less than 100 votes.
2. Just over two thirds of Canadians voted in 2015.
3. In 2015, 11 ridings were decided by margins of less than 1% of the vote.
4. In 2015, 23 ridings were decided by margins of less than 1,000 votes.