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## Take climate action with your local government

### Bring your voice to the table

As you're no doubt aware, when it comes to climate change, our situation isn't good. We need to drastically reduce our emissions to stay below [the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's 1.5 C warming limit](#), which will help us avoid the worst consequences of a warming world. Climate change isn't just an environmental crisis; it's a social and economic crisis that puts all human life at risk. As the world heats up, our health, food systems, economies and communities will all be greatly affected.

The scientific community agrees that we should reduce global emissions by about half by 2030 and aim for net-zero emissions by 2050. In Canada, the federal government recently committed reaching net-zero emissions by 2050, but we have a lot of work to do if we want to get there.

The good news is that, throughout the country, municipalities are acting on climate change. In many ways, they are our greatest hope for curbing emissions. Mayors and councils are directly accountable to their constituents and can often be more nimble than provincial or federal representatives. In Canada, municipalities have influence over about 50 per cent of our emissions. With about 80 per cent of Canadians living in cities, it's important — even crucial — that we focus on their potential to help stop climate change.

People like you, who are willing to work with progressive local government leaders, can make a huge difference. You can influence your city or town, and cities and towns can go on to lead provinces, territories and even countries. Your role is powerful.

Use [this guide](#) to mobilize your local government to act on climate change so you can build a healthy, sustainable, resilient future together.

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